

Egypt: Israel showing moderation

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Maguid Sunday praised Israel for what he called moderation over Lebanon and the disputed Sinai strip of Taba. "The Israeli government has shown a degree of moderation in its behaviour regarding the withdrawal of its troops from Lebanon and the statements by the (Israeli) prime minister on resolving the Taba issue," he told parliament's foreign relations committee. Talks on Taba opened Sunday and officials of both countries expressed optimism that the dispute could be settled amicably. (See story on page 2) Mr. Abdul Maguid said he hoped Israel would "continue to show its good intentions to achieve peace especially with regard to a phased withdrawal from Lebanon." The foreign minister also reaffirmed a commitment to bilateral relations with Israel under their 1979 treaty "notwithstanding Egypt's Arab commitments."

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تيمز يومية مستقلة تحت إشراف مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الأمل"

Volume 10 Number 2780

AMMAN, MONDAY JANUARY 28, 1985, JUMADA AL OOLA 6, 1405

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Cabinet forms team for Bahrain talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Sunday formed a Jordanian delegation to the meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Bahraini Committee, which is scheduled to hold meetings in Manama on Feb. 5. Ministry of Industry and Trade Under-Secretary Dr. Ibrahim Badran will head the delegation to the meeting, which will review Jordanian-Bahraini economic cooperation.

Denktash rules out summit before polls

NICOSIA (R) — Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash Sunday ruled out new talks to settle the Cyprus problem until after elections he plans to hold in June. Addressing a meeting of farmers on his birthday — he turned 61 Sunday — Mr. Denktash said he was ready for a new summit with Greek Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou, but added "it is not possible to start talks before the elections."

Austria defence chief begins Cairo visit

CAIRO (R) — Austrian Defence Minister Friedrich Friesenberger, target of criticism at home for receiving a freed Nazi war criminal, went ahead Sunday with his scheduled programme on an official visit to Egypt. Mr. Friesenberger and his delegation met the defence minister, Field Marshal Mohammad Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala, for a first round of talks on Egypt's defence needs.

Secrecy shrouds U.S.-Chinese talks

PEKING (AP) — A U.S. delegation led by Melvyn R. Paisley, assistant secretary of the navy, arrived here by special plane Sunday to discuss the sale of American weapons to the Chinese navy. The expected sale of anti-submarine warfare and destroyer modernisation equipment would be Communist China's first major purchase of U.S. arms.

Israel cabinet okays \$23 billion budget

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli cabinet Sunday formally approved a \$23 billion budget for the financial year starting in April and an eight-month wage and price pact with trade unions, a government statement said. The package deal, drawn up with unions and industrialists, was aimed at reducing 450 per cent annual inflation and ending Israel's economic crisis. The new \$22.97 billion budget is about \$1.8 billion less than the current figure.

Jawara ends Saudi visit

BAHRAIN (R) — Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara Sunday concluded a four-day visit to Saudi Arabia during which he performed the so-called minor pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina. The agency gave no further details of his visit.

'Freedom of the press must not infringe upon citizens' values, convictions and institutions'

King urges fresh look at customs, traditions to protect social fabric

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday called for redefining social customs and traditions in order to preserve the fabric of the Jordanian society and said that the freedom of the press must not infringe upon the citizens' values, convictions, and Jordan's institutions.

In a letter he sent to Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat, and released by the Jordanian News Agency, Petra on Sunday, the King said that articles appearing in the local press recently have been attacking tribes and their traditions and customs.

"This is indeed regrettable," the King said, "since such attacks are bound to harm the feelings of a dear part of our Jordanian society," adding that the country's laws should not mean that "we dispose of or ignore our norms and good traditions which embody tolerance, good deeds and strengthen the fabric of our society."

Following are major excerpts from the King's letter to the prime minister:

"I have noticed recently that a number of our newspaper writers have been exceeding the limits of reality, knowledge and responsibility and have been launching attacks on our social institutions and their customs and values. I have not been happy about this attack, but had to wait hoping that the writers would tackle the subject in a more constructive manner basing their writings on the truth and reality. I had hoped that writers would avoid superficiality, dissemblance and cheap hypocrisy to reach the truth without any fear and to tackle political issues in a truthful manner."

"Writers should be leaders in sound and useful opinion and should not be hindered by intimidation or coercion. They should rise to the level of responsibility through pursuance of knowledge so as to help in the construction of the society through

reason, logic and intellect. "We have become weary of a continued downtrend to frustration of which we see outlines in the newspapers every morning and evening, or in cartoonist drawings which can only cause despair and lead to loss because these frustrating elements tend to neglect all bright aspects of our life, our national struggle and our Arab heritage."

"Most recently, I have noticed that some writings have been directed against the tribal life, its norms and traditions. This is most regrettable because it harms a dear sector of our society. I would like to repeat to you what I have told a meeting of tribal heads recently that 'I Al Hussein from Hashem and Jurash the noblest Arab tribe of Mecca which was honoured by God and into which was born the Arab Prophet Mohammad'. Therefore, whatever harms our tribes in Jordan is considered harmful to us, as this has been the case all along, and it will continue to be so for ever. We cannot tolerate any harm done to our tribes nor shall we show forgiveness."

"As to the laws, they have been drawn up for all people to offer them service and to protect their souls, their property and their rights. Laws are designed to govern relations among people, but these laws will always remain closely connected with the people they affect and their norms, customs and traditions."

"These traditions, norms and customs have been adopted for the sake of preserving the Arab personality and all good qualities

of people descending from our fathers and grandfathers. These traditions give us special characteristics in our part of the world. But we always revise them and reject all that is harmful and keep an open mind for interaction and for acquiring all that is useful and beneficial for us. We frankly call for rejecting all traditions that have been imposed on us since the establishment of Jordan. We reject all that is not original, but this does not mean that we abandon our traditions and the good things that they entail, and the experiments of our ancestors."

"Laws are set and respected and applied and developed in society in accordance to need. Enacting laws should not mean that we dispose of or ignore our norms and good traditions which embody tolerance, good deeds and enhance the fabric of society."

"I have felt the need for defining these traditions and norms in accordance with a study to be conducted by a team representing all concerned parties with a view to emphasising our determination to preserve all that is useful and beneficial which can be a source of pride to us and which we should preserve because of its values and noble and good meanings."

"These traditions should be made to preserve the fabric of our society in a sound and healthy atmosphere within the great Jordanian family. "I would like to stress that the phenomenon of disintegration among our tribes which we have witnessed over a period of time is very painful, negative and subversive. We should never condone it."

"As to the information media in Jordan I would like you to call their attention immediately to the fact that freedom ceases when it tries to encroach on the dignity and sacredness of other individuals and groups. It is intolerable and unacceptable to allow public freedom to be employed as a tool to cast doubt on others or cause destruction in society."

Beirut cabinet session postponed

BEIRUT (R) — Prime Minister Rashid Karami, facing a host of economic and political problems, Sunday postponed an emergency cabinet meeting as ministers pressed a key minister to withdraw his resignation.

Mr. Karami said on Beirut Radio that he was postponing the meeting, called to discuss the collapse of the Lebanese pound, "in the wake of the critical situation,

and after the resignation of (Education) Minister Selim Hoss."

News of Mr. Hoss's move Saturday brought strong pressure for him to stay on and avert the break up of the "national unity" government, seen as the last hope for saving Lebanon from disintegration when it took office last year.

Several Beirut newspapers

commented Sunday that Mr. Hoss, dubbed by the French language L'Orient-Le Jour the "fireman of the Karami cabinet," wanted to leave when he was needed most.

Right-wing Falangist radio later reported that a senior Syrian envoy Sunday visited Mr. Hoss at his home south of Beirut and conveyed a message from Syrian officials.

Space shuttle returns after secret flight

HOUSTON (R) — After three days of orbital secrecy, the space shuttle Discovery headed for home Sunday with the U.S. air force pronouncing part of its military mission a success.

Discovery, commanded by lunar astronaut Thomas Mattingly, was due to land at Cape Canaveral, Florida, at 4:23 p.m. EST (21:23 GMT).

Unlike during previous shuttle flights, the public has not heard a word from the five astronauts since they roared into space on Thursday at the start of a mission shrouded in mystery.

A terse air force statement issued Sunday continued to ignore widespread speculation that the five astronauts deployed a "spy" satellite to eavesdrop on Soviet electronic transmissions.

The statement referred only to the test of a booster rocket used to guide satellites into final orbit.

Sudanese rebels to free four captive foreigners

NAIROBI (AP) — Sudanese rebels announced in a Sunday night radio broadcast that their leader has ordered the release of four hostages — a Briton, a Kenyan and two Frenchmen — who have been held nearly 11 months.

The clandestine radio broadcast, monitored here, said all ransom demands had been dropped "on humanitarian grounds." But an informed source in Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital, said an amount "less than \$1 million" was paid this month to the captors, the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) led by Col. John Garang.

"The hostages were captured Feb. 10, 1984, while working in the Jonglei canal project in southern Sudan as employees of a French firm, International Construction Co. (CCI).

Ethiopia, a supporter of the SPLA and which has acted as an

intermediary in the negotiations, has not been informed of the release order, said foreign ministry spokesman Tefera Gizaw, reached by telephone in Addis Ababa.

"I am surprised the SPLA has announced it because it has not been brought to our attention," he said. The broadcast, believed to have originated in the Ethiopian capital, said the ransom demands were dropped because the group had resolved to free the four on "humanitarian grounds" in response to the many appeals from family and friends."

Earlier, the SPLA had demanded that French firms leave southern Sudan, that France withdraw support from the canal project and of the Muslim-dominated government of President Jaafar Numeiri.



PROTESTS IN CAIRO: Egyptian children holding their national flag and slogans saying "Egypt for Egypt", "Taba is Egyptian" and "No to the Israeli pavilion" at the Cairo International Book Fair, demonstrate in Cairo Sunday (See page 2)

"No to the Israeli pavilion" at the Cairo International Book Fair, demonstrate in Cairo Sunday (See page 2)

Greek ship hit near Saudi coast in apparent Iranian raid

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iranian warplanes on Sunday raided the Greek motor tanker Serifos in the Gulf waters off the Saudi Arabian coast, punching a hole in the starboard side, Marine salvage executives in Bahrain reported.

The captain of the 47,869-ton vessel told the Associated Press in a ship-to-shore radio interview that "all my 33 crewmen are safe."

But he insisted that his vessel was "attacked by an Iranian navy unit."

The Iraqi said in Baghdad meanwhile that their jet fighters at almost the same time attacked two "naval targets" in the Gulf south of Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal.

An Iraqi military spokesman said the attacks were carried out at six p.m. (1500 GMT) on one "large" and one "very large" target. Iraq usually applies these terms to oil tankers or merchant vessels.

"I saw no planes," said Serifos Capt. Eliftherios Fragoulis, of the island of Crete. "I saw no navy units either. But it must have been an Iranian warship that hit us. The missile came from the direction of the Iranian coast."

Maritime shipping and salvage executives who monitor navigation in the Gulf sea lanes discounted the captain's contention, insisting that the Serifos was

Peres sees little chance to revive Naqoura talks

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres told his government ministers Sunday that the troops withdrawal talks with Lebanon appear to be over, a cabinet official said.

Mr. Peres' remarks constituted an assessment of the situation and did not mean that Mr. Peres opposed a resumption of the talks. Cabinet Secretary Yossi Beilin said, Israeli and Lebanese military negotiators last met on Thursday in the South Lebanon town of Naqoura, but they did not set a date for another session.

Mr. Beilin quoted Mr. Peres as telling the cabinet that "the Naqoura talks have apparently ended completely because of the impossible demands of the Lebanese."

The cabinet secretary said Mr. Peres was referring to Lebanon's insistence that Israel provide a timetable for its complete withdrawal from Lebanon.

Mr. Beilin said Mr. Peres did not indicate whether he wanted the talks to continue. The cabinet did not discuss the matter, Mr. Beilin added.

Ever since the talks started Nov. 8 at the headquarters of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in Naqoura, Israel and Lebanon have been far apart on what "security arrangements" should be implemented in South Lebanon after an Israeli pullback.

After failing to reach agreement with the Lebanese, the Israeli cabinet on Jan. 14 approved a three-stage withdrawal from the country it invaded on June 6, 1982. The

Yamani: OPEC nears solution

GENEVA (AP) — Saudi Arabia's oil minister, Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, said Sunday that an OPEC committee had moved towards a solution to the group's price disarray, but other officials were less optimistic. The seven-member panel, of which Sheikh Yamani is chairman, met Sunday to prepare recommendations for an emergency meeting Monday of all 13 nations in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). The group is trying to prevent prices from sinking further under the pressure of weak oil demand and increasing competition from Britain and other non-OPEC exporters. During a break in the closed-door talks in a Geneva hotel, Sheikh Yamani told reporters, "we are discussing everything" that must be done to restore unity and discipline to OPEC's price structure. He added that progress was being made, but he declined to say what specific action was being considered. Earlier story on page 7.

Katyushas land near 3 Israeli positions in Lebanon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Three Katyusha rockets landed near Israeli positions in Lebanon in the past 24 hours and Israeli soldiers came under rocket-propelled grenade and automatic weapons fire in the occupied southern region of Lebanon, according to reports reaching here Sunday.

In the southern port of Sidon, resistance commandos fought a 15-minute rocket battle with gunmen of an Israeli-backed Lebanese militia, security sources quoted by Reuters said.

No reports of casualties that the attacks might have inflicted on the Israelis reached Beirut Sunday.

A Katyusha rocket was fired at an Israeli position in eastern Lebanon near Kfar Koub. The rocket was launched from behind Syrian lines, Israel Radio contended.

Another Katyusha was fired at an Israeli base near the village of Insariya. Israeli sources quoted by the Associated Press said, speaking on condition they were not named.

A third rocket was fired Saturday night at a base near the port town of Tyre. The sources said the rocket was probably launched from the Palestinian refugee camp of Bourj Al Shimali.

Also on Saturday, rocket-propelled grenades and automatic weapons fire were directed at a position near the town of Jouiyya east of Tyre, the sources said.

Unidentified men attacked two positions of the "South Lebanon Army" (SLA) militia at the northern entrance to Sidon, setting off an exchange of fire, sources quoted by Reuters said.

Israeli troops later searched the area but there was no immediate word on arrests or casualties.

In Tel Aviv, an Israeli military spokesman said unidentified men fired two rocket-propelled grenades and automatic weapons at the SLA militiamen in Sidon.

In a separate incident, a roadside bomb exploded near Tyre as an Israeli patrol passed by, the spokesman said.

The Israeli occupation forces in Lebanon have been coming under increased attacks and concern over mounting casualties is believed to be the major factor behind Israel's recent decision to stage a three-phased withdrawal from Lebanon.

According to official Israeli figures, 610 Israeli soldiers have been killed, in addition to over 4,000 soldiers wounded, since the Jewish state's invasion of Lebanon

India arrests over 30 armed Sikhs

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian security forces have arrested more than 30 armed Sikh extremists in the northern border state of Jammu and Kashmir, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported Sunday.

It quoted authoritative sources as saying the extremists, armed with rifles, submachine guns and anti-tank weapons, were intercepted during the past two weeks while trying to cross the border between India and Pakistan.

It said they included three leading members of the outlawed All India Sikh Students Federation, which has been linked by Indian officials to a guerrilla war for an

independent Sikh nation in adjoining Punjab state.

The Hindustan Times newspaper said Saturday four assassination teams from Punjab had

arrived Delhi on a mission to kill Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and President Zail Singh.

The paper said the squads were trained by Pakistani military intelligence. Islamabad has denied charges that extremists were armed and trained in Pakistan.

PTI said the extremists rounded up in Jammu and Kashmir carried documents showing they "re-entered India" with plans to carry out killings and acts of sabotage. The arrests followed a tightening of border security, it said.

Punjab police chief K.S. Dhilon was quoted by PTI as telling reporters in the Punjab town of Jullundur, Saturday that the security situation in the state was well under control.

He said members of the public should not panic unnecessarily over "sporadic incidents of terrorism."

Prime Minister Gandhi took office hours after his mother and predecessor Indira was assassinated by two Sikh bodyguards in October.

The murder triggered violence in which 2,717 people, mostly Sikhs, were killed. Mr. Gandhi has said his government will give priority to solving the Punjab crisis.

Spate of attacks sparks NATO security concerns

BONN (R) — A series of attacks on military targets in Europe has alerted Western security experts to the existence of a new international urban guerrilla alliance.

They believe three groups, West Germany's Red Army Faction, Action Directe in France and the Belgian Fighting Communist Cells, have joined forces against the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

Evidence included their use of the same stolen explosives, plans announced by the Red Army Faction and Action Directe, to combine operations and the belief of all three that the cohesion of NATO called for cross-border action, they said.

The U.S. State Department said on Friday that Washington and its allies were trying to meet the threat and it referred to the three groups in an information sheet.

In the most recent attack, Action Directe shot dead a senior French Defence Ministry official in Paris on Friday.

The man, 55-year-old Rene Audrun, was Action Directe's first human target since it began a campaign of violence in 1980. The group said he was shot by a commando named after Elisabeth van Dyck, a Red Army faction member killed by police in Nuremberg six years ago.

Mr. Audrun was killed 10 days after the two groups announced they were forming a joint "political-military front in Western Europe," with NATO as its main target.

West German anti-terrorist officers say the two groups may already be coordinating attacks and the Fighting Communist Cells could be the next to join the alliance.

All three appeared to have used the same explosives, stolen last June from a quarry at Ecaussines, south of Brussels.

The Belgian group has claimed responsibility for 13 attacks on military-related targets since October, including six bomb explosions at a NATO fuel pipeline.

It said its last attack, a car bomb explosion at a U.S. army social centre in Brussels on Jan. 15, was "dedicated" to 29 Red Army Faction prisoners on hunger strike in West Germany and said its aim was to kill or maim "the Yankee military and its accomplices."

West German counter-intelligence chief Herbert Heltenbroich said last week there was a clear link between the three groups.

He said the revival of the Western European Union defence group and the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe were behind the guerrillas' belief that they should take their fight across borders.

INSIDE

- * Egyptian, Israeli officials optimistic as talks begin on Taba, page 2
- * Ministry announces new speed limits for vehicles, page 3
- * Dialogue on agriculture should be systematised, page 4
- * Soaring population aggravates Third World poverty, page 5
- * Vatanen loses time after injuring two in accident, page 6
- * Iran halts almost all imports, page 7
- * Reagan cautions on duration, outcome of arms talks, page 8

Egyptian, Israeli officials optimistic over Taba talks

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Egyptian officials arrived in Israel Sunday to start negotiations on a disputed Sinai border strip, optimistic they would make progress.

The talks convening Sunday were to focus on the narrow Taba salient along the Gulf of Aqaba but their impact could be much wider: A thaw in the cold peace between the two former enemies.

The deliberations will centre on the first step towards a solution — deployment in the tiny beach strip of a unit of the 10-nation Multinational Force of Observers (MFO) which monitors the Sinai as part of the 1979 Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty.

The two sides, represented by Foreign Ministry officials, will hold three days of talks in the presence of U.S. diplomats at a hotel in the Israeli desert town of Beer-sheba.

They will not deal with the critical issue of sovereignty. The dispute over the area stems from a fuzzy map drawn up by Turkish and British officers in 1906.

"We've come for a new round of talks on Taba and we believe all problems can be solved and all difficulties can be overcome," Egypt's chief delegate, Abdul Halim Badawi, told reporters at Tel Aviv's Ben-Gurion Airport.

"We are entering these talks with an open mind and good will. I am optimistic," Mr. Badawi, Egypt's assistant foreign minister, said.

Welcoming the Egyptians at the airport, Zvi Kedari, Israel's chief delegate to the talks, said he agreed with Mr. Badawi's assessment.

Taba, less than a kilometre long, is a popular vacation area, with a five-star Israeli hotel and a topless beach. It remained in Israeli hands after Israel returned the Sinai to Egypt in April 1982.

The delegates were expected to discuss whether the MFO will play a supervisory security role, as Israel wants, or take over policing duties now performed by Israeli police, as Egypt insists.

Solution of the Taba issue, an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and an improvement of the conditions of Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank are Egypt's three conditions for returning its ambassador to Tel Aviv.

He was recalled in the aftermath of Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon and the massacre that year by Lebanese Falangist militiamen of hundreds of Palestinians in two Beirut refugee camps surrounded by the Israeli army.

Police armed with submachine guns guarded the Beer-sheba hotel where the Egyptian, Israeli and American flags fluttered from the roof. As the delegates later arrived, barricades were set up in front of the entrance.

Proposed bill could muzzle Iran's press, aide says

TEHRAN (R) — Iran's Guardian Council of legal and religious experts has been asked to consider a press bill approved by parliament despite criticism from the information minister that it could lead to newspapers being muzzled.

The bill, which lays down what a newspaper may or may not print, was given its first reading in the Majlis (Parliament) last week before being referred to the Guardian Council, a watchdog body of lawyers and experts in Islamic ideology.

The council is due to start debating the bill this week. Diplomats said they expected at most minor changes in the bill, which is likely to become law despite strong reservations in some quarters.

Hojaatollah Muhammad Khatami, minister of Islamic guidance — the former Information Ministry — said during the Majlis debate that he left unclear the limits of criticism and freedom of the press.

"Freedom of expression within the framework of the system of the Islamic Republic is a very sacred principle," he said, adding: "I personally prefer to tolerate error or even one-sidedness of opinion in return for freedom of expression."

The minister expressed the view of many critics when he said the proposed law left it open to a few people to impose their own ideas and tastes on what newspapers could print.

At issue is a proposal to create a supervisory committee with full powers to grant or revoke at will licences to publish newspapers.

The committee would comprise a judge, a Majlis deputy, a Muslim cleric, a university lecturer and a representative of the press.

Critics argued that while the law makers had the best of intentions, the proposal to have such a small, unrepresentative but powerful committee could lead to control of the press falling into the hands of one faction. Previously, publishers could appeal to a jury.

While there are no opposition newspapers in Iran, there is no formal censorship.

Critics of the bill, presented by a group of deputies as a private motion, said restrictions on what could be published were so ambiguous and far-reaching that they could cover just about everything.

"With this law the newspapers might as well close down because

they would not be able to publish a single word," Deputy Muhammad Khazali said.

Among other things, the bill bans the promotion of "pleasure-seeking, luxury, extravagance, lavishness or the creation of a consumer society."

Creating differences among various strata of society "in whatever form" would be banned, as would libel and insults against officials, institutions, organisations or "every member of the country."

The Tehran newspaper Etela'at pointed out that punishment meted out to people who try to bully the press or impose censorship had been reduced in the bill to one year in prison.

The punishment now is up to two years' imprisonment.

Numeiri hails century-old Mahdist uprising triumph

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri this weekend hailed the triumph of an uprising against Anglo-Egyptian rule 100 years ago by a man who declared himself to be the Islamic Mahdi (awaited spiritual leader).

Mr. Numeiri, who established Islamic Law (Sharia) in September 1983, ordered celebrations of the centenary and cal-

led the Mahdist rising a turning point in Sudanese and Islamic history.

Anglo-Egyptian Governor-General Charles George Gordon died at dawn on Jan. 26 1885 as Muslim forces loyal to Muhammad Ahmad — the self-proclaimed Mahdi — swept into Khartoum to proclaim an independent Sudanese state.

Reagan to meet Mideast leaders but no policy changes likely

By William Scally

WASHINGTON — President Reagan has begun his second term in the White House with plans for early meetings with Middle East leaders, but he is expected to maintain a low U.S. profile in the region.

During his inaugural address, Mr. Reagan made no mention of the Middle East, where he suffered the worst foreign policy setbacks of his first term, and the region appears to have been shunted into the background as he concentrates on the U.S. economy and relations with Moscow.

But the White House last week announced visits by Saudi Arabia's King Fahd next month and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in March.

In addition, administration officials announced earlier this month that Washington and Moscow had agreed to hold regular talks on the Middle East.

U.S. officials expect King Fahd, making his first state visit to the

United States, to arrive with a shopping list for weapons. State Department Spokesman Bernard Kalb told reporters recently an arms package to enhance Saudi security was under consideration, but he declined to give details.

Mr. Mubarak is said to be seeking an additional billion dollars in U.S. aid next year to keep pace with increases sought by Israel. Washington has kept Egypt's aid level close to Israel's since they signed a U.S.-sponsored peace treaty in 1979.

Mr. Reagan's talks with both leaders are certain to include discussion of regional peace prospects but officials say they do not expect any new U.S. peace initiative to emerge.

Jordan's restoration last September of relations with Cairo aroused U.S. hopes of new peace moves in the Middle East.

But Washington has kept a low profile in the region since it pulled U.S. troops out of Lebanon nearly a year ago following a 17-month stay that cost 262 lives. Shortly

afterwards Beirut abrogated a U.S.-mediated plan for Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

When Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy was involved in Israeli-Lebanese negotiations late last year Washington said it wanted to be helpful but repeatedly denied Mr. Murphy was mediating.

The United States has now welcomed Israel's plans to pull its troops out of Lebanon, hoping this would not leave bloodshed in its wake.

NEWS ANALYSIS

An Israeli pullout, long demanded by Cairo, could help thaw Egypt's relations with Israel.

Washington is also playing a cautious role over long-stalled Arab-Israeli peace moves in the absence of movement towards negotiations by Israel and Jordan, although Mr. Reagan remains committed to his September 1982 peace plan on Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli-occupied West

Bank.

Nevertheless, leaders in the region continue to see the United States as an indispensable element in the Middle East, according to a former high State Department official.

Former Undersecretary of State Joseph Sisco, who recently made an 11-day trip to the region, said in a Voice of America radio interview that he found "a continuing desire for the United States to get involved."

But he said there had been "unrealistic expectations" of what the United States could achieve. Echoing the official U.S. view, Mr. Sisco said: "There is an understanding that the gap is still wide and that the United States is playing a low-key, low-visibility role until such time as we feel that the two sides are somewhat within striking distance."

He did not expect any immediate move by Jordan towards negotiations with Israel. In a visit to Cairo last month King Hussein denounced the

Israeli-Egyptian accord but proposed a conference under United Nations auspices of Israel, the Arabs — including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) — the Soviet Union, the United States and other permanent Security Council members.

Israel would be asked to trade peace for return of Arab land taken in the 1967 war.

But neither the U.S. or Israel favours a conference on the Middle East which would draw Moscow back into negotiations.

The Palestine National Council (PNC) has authorised PLO leader Yasser Arafat to take joint action with Jordan but U.S. State Department officials were sceptical about any chances of Mr. Arafat backing negotiations with Israel.

On the Israeli side, Prime Minister Shimon Peres is more interested in the possibility of peace talks than his predecessor, Yitzhak Shamir, but U.S. officials do not know whether he could win the support of his coalition government.

APU postpones Aden talks

DAMASCUS (Petra) — The second Arab League expert meeting scheduled to meet in Aden next Tuesday was postponed until the end of February according to the Secretary General of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU), Abdul Rahman Borawi.

The postponement, he said was upon request of the People's Assembly of the hosting country, South Yemen, because it coincides with the assembly's current sessions.

He said such meetings are part of the unions efforts "to intensify dialogue between Arab parliamentarians for the purpose of standardising and unifying Arab legislation."

Mr. Borawi said the February meeting will discuss the rights of people to vote for parliament and democracy in the Arab World.

Jackson rebuffs Kolek on Falasha airlift

AMMAN (J.T.) — Leading American human rights activist Jesse Jackson has rebuffed Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kolek's request that Mr. Jackson help reactivate the now-suspended airlift operation to transfer Ethiopian Jews to Israel.

In a telegram he sent to Mr. Kolek, Mr. Jackson, who heads the National Rainbow Coalition Inc., a human rights group that seeks to protect the interests of blacks and ethnic groups in the U.S., told the Israeli official that he was equally concerned over the plight of all victims of drought in Africa and not Ethiopian Jews only.

Following is the text of Mr. Jackson's message to Mr. Kolek: "I am in receipt of your telegram requesting my intervention on behalf of the community of Falasha Jews in Ethiopia, whom you seek to airlift from that country and Sudan to Israel, we, in the Rainbow Coalition, are honoured that you feel I can play a role in helping to resolve some of the problems accompanying this situation."

"Please be advised that our humanitarian concern with the human tragedy in Africa extends to all who have been subjected to the ravages of famine, we have recently held meetings here in Washington, DC with the ambassadors of Sudan, Somalia and Ethiopia for the purpose of establishing a better understanding of how we might be most helpful."

"Please be assured that we will continue to direct our energies toward helping to find solutions

that will relieve the agony of our brothers and sisters in the drought-stricken areas.

"With respect to your request for my intervention, we can assure you that we are actively engaged in gathering information and considering the feasibility of this."

"I will be in communication with you shortly to keep you apprised of our decision regarding your request."

Arab-American officials who discussed the issue of Ethiopian Jews, also known as Falashas, with Mr. Jackson told the Jordan Times that the human rights activist is "not confused" on the subject and that he has no intentions of displacing Palestinians with Ethiopians.

The covert Israeli operation to airlift the Falashas from Ethiopia to Israel was suspended last month after it attracted massive publicity. Unsubstantiated reports say that about 25,000 Falashas have already been transferred to Israel.

The airlift and reported Israel plans to settle them in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip have raised concerns in the Arab World that the Jewish state intends to use them to appropriate more Arab land for settlement prior to annexing the occupied territories completely.

U.S. officials have reported told Israel that U.S. financial aid could not be used to settle the Falashas in the occupied territories.

The Soviet Union also charge last week that over 600 of the new immigrants have been absorbed into the Israeli army.

U.K., W. German planes start famine relief drops

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) — The first aid drops of relief supplies to Ethiopian famine victims in a remote area were declared an "extraordinarily good performance" Sunday by Kurt Jansson, U.N. assistant secretary-general for emergency operations in this African country.

In Saturday's preliminary run, a British Royal Air Force plane dropped pallets of grain from a height of six metres while West German aircraft did it from three metres, he told the Associated Press.

Relief officials believe less than one-third of the 9 million Ethi-

opians affected by drought related food shortages are no being reached because of rough terrain and other limiting factor.

Dropping pallets of food from planes had been opposed by the Ethiopian government on grounds of impracticability but Mr. Jansson said a new technique was employed in Saturday's preliminary drops by West German and British Royal Air Force transports supervised by Staffan de Mistra, a Swedish official with the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), had a 95 per cent success rate in its drops.

Turkey decides response to Greek defence strategy

ANKARA (R) — Turkey has decided on its response to a new Greek "defence strategy" under which Greece is said to see Turkey as its major threat, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal was quoted as saying.

The semi-official Anatolian News Agency quoted him as saying a five-hour meeting of the National Security Council, in which he took part Saturday, took the decision but he refused to give details.

"They put forward a strategy. We have put forward a response. It details cannot be given," Ozal said.

Greek government and defence chiefs approved their new policy on Jan. 8. Officials in Athens said it reflected the view that felt NATO-member Turkey was greater military threat than Greece's Communist Warsaw neighbours.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:00 Koran
17:10 Cartoons
17:35 Children's Programme
17:45 Children's Programme
18:30 Wonderful World of Plants
19:00 A Programme on Armed Forces
19:25 News in Hebrew
19:35 News in Arabic
20:00 News in Arabic
20:35 Arabic Series
21:30 Tomorrow's Programmes
21:40 News in Arabic
22:10 Local Programme
23:00 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:15 Sport
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Magpie Bragg — Eps. 5
21:00 Health Beat
21:10 Mandy Park — Eps. 4
22:00 News in English
23:10 The Yellow Rose

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 90 MHz. FM & partly on 95.0 KHz. SW

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show
11:00 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:03 Pop Session
13:30 News Bulletin
14:00 Instruments
14:30 Over a Cup of Tea
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Old Favourites
16:30 Classical Show Case
17:00 Pop Session
17:30 News Summary
18:00 Sports Round-up
18:05 Arabians Nights
19:30 Newsdesk
19:35 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 News Summary
22:00 News Summary
23:00 News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Puckoon 06:45 Letter from London 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:20 News Summary 07:30 News Summary 07:30 Letterbox 07:45 Recording of the Week 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Feature 09:00 World News 09:09 Twenty-Four Hours 09:30 News Summary 09:30 Sarah and Company 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 The High-Hiker 10:30 Anything Goes 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 Newsdesk 11:25 Good Books 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Peetles' Choice 12:00 News Summary 12:15 Science in Action 12:30 Music Now 12:50 World News 13:00 News About Britain 13:15 The Art of Gerald Moore 13:30 Album Time 14:00 Radio Newslet 14:15 Unquote 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 Twenty-Four Hours 15:30 News Summary 15:30 Typetalk 16:10 16:00 Outlook 16:45 Talk 17:00 Radio Newslet 17:15 Mainstream 17:45 The Art of Gerald Moore 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 Putting Politics in its Place 18:30 Sweet Soul Music 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:09 Book Choice 19:15 Jazz Score 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Wives And Daughters 21:00 Outlook 21:30 Stock Market Report 21:45 Peetles' Choice 22:00 World News 22:09 Twenty-Four Hours 22:30 News Summary 22:30 Sports International 23:00 Network UK 23:15 Short Takes 23:30 Rock Salad 24:00 World News The World Today 08:25 Book Choice 08:30 Financial News 08:40 Reflections 08:45 Sports Round-up 01:15 Sweet Soul Music 01:30 Unquote

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz

06:00 VOA Morning: News, Informal Presentation of Popular Music with Feature Reports, Interviews, Answers to Listeners' Questions, Science Digest, Sports News at 30 minutes past the hour, 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Special English News and Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News and Features 21:00 Newsline America 21:30 Music USA 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 VOA World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

JORDAN CINE CLUB

"The Sailor who fell from grace with the Sea" — Sarah Miles and Kris Kristofferson, at 8:00 p.m. at Philadelphia Cine Theatre to be followed by discussion.

PLAY

* A legal play (The Choice) at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Jan. 30).

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre — tel. 6610267
American Centre 43371
American Centre Library 43371
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 42493
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Husseini Youth City 667181
Y.W.M.C.A. 41793
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qaf'a (Cradle Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalists. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7.30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 7.30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lubdah, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 25383.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 773361.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.
Assam International Church (Interdenominational) Gate at Southern Baptist School in Mezzeh, 816534.

PRAYER TIMES

06:11 Fajr
06:33 Sunrise
11:49 Dhuhur
14:44 Asr
17:45 Maghrib
18:27 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53230, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

09:30 Aqaba (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
09:45 Cairo (RJ)
09:55 Muscat, Bahrain (RJ)
09:55 Dhahran (RJ)
10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:20 Beirut (RJ)
10:20 Cairo (MS)
10:50 Larnaca, Damascus (RJ)
14:40 Kuwait (KU)
15:10 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
16:35 Baghdad, Istanbul (TU)
18:30 Bangkok (RJ)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:45 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
22:30 Baghdad (RJ)
00:45 Cairo (RJ)
01:10 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

05:45 Cairo (RJ)
07:00 Beirut (RJ)
07:15 Aqaba (RJ)
08:45 Beirut (MEA)
11:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
11:30 Vienna, Chicago (RJ)
14:40 Kuwait (RJ)
14:40 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
17:25 Istanbul, Baghdad (TU)
19:30 Kuwait (RJ)
19:30 Damascus, Larnaca (RJ)
19:40 Dhahran (RJ)
19:40 Doha, Muscat (RJ)
20:15 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:15 Jeddah (RJ)
20:45 Dubai (RJ)
21:00 Cairo (RJ)
21:10 Baghdad (RJ)
23:20 Cairo (MS)
23:30 Lisbon, Rio de Janeiro (IA)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port: — Rootless

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Clouds will appear at different altitudes, with southeasterly moderate winds. Probably there will be scattered local showers. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy, with northerly moderate winds and sea calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C:

Amman 6/13
Aqaba 13/25
Dahesh 7/17
Jordan Valley 14/25

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 13, Aqaba 25. Humidity readings: Amman 30 per cent, Aqaba 25 per cent.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in JLD
Belgian franc 64.5/ 64.5
Dutch guilder 114.2/ 114.9
Egyptian pound 306/ 309.6
French franc 42/ 42.3
Iraqi dinar 333.6/ 340
Italian lire (for 100) 20.9/ 21.1
Japanese yen (for 100) 160.2/ 161.1
Kuwaiti dinar 1331.6/ 1338.3
Lebanese lira 36.6/ 37.9
Omani rial 1173.3/ 1181.6
Qatari riyal 111.8/ 112.5
Saudi riyal 120/ 120
Swedish crown 45.1/ 45.3
Swiss franc 153/ 153.9
Syrian lira 34.2/ 35.4
UAE dirham 111/ 111.8
U.K. sterling pound 450.7/ 453.4
U.S. dollar 407.9/ 409.5
West German mark 128.4/ 129.2

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 775111
Fire, fire, police 199
Blood bank 775121
Fire headquarters 22090-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36525
Municipal water service 77125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333

HOSPITALS

NEWS IN BRIEF

Royal Decree approves accord with Tunis

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree has been issued approving an agreement on information cooperation between Jordan and Tunis. The agreement aims to strengthen scope of existing cooperation between Jordan and Tunisia in various information affairs.

Alia to fly to Moscow

AMMAN (J.T.) — Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines, is extending its services to new destinations according to Alia News. Beginning from May 2 the Boeing 727 flight to Istanbul will continue to Moscow, capital of the Soviet Union. Alia intends to start a direct flight to Moscow in summer with a Boeing 707. For the time being Amman and Moscow are linked by a Soviet Airlines, Aeroflot, flight every Tuesday.

Jordanian team to attend sports meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian delegation left Amman Sunday to take part in the meetings of the Arab Youth and Sports Ministers Council which started Sunday in Algeria. The five-day meeting will discuss reports on youth and sport activities and support of the steadfastness of youth in the Israeli occupied South Lebanon and the affairs of the Arab Fund for Youth and Sport Activities. The Jordanian delegation is led by Jordan Youth Organisation Director General Mohammad Jameel Abu Al Tayyeb.

Registration starts for nursing course

AMMAN (Petra) — Registration started on Sunday for the 18-month long course of assistant nurses at the University of Jordan Hospital. A university source said girls selected for the course will have free full accommodation, uniform and a JD 31 monthly allowance during the course and will be appointed to the hospital staff after graduation.

1,938 ships dock at Aqaba Port

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 1,938 ships docked at Aqaba Port since the beginning of last year until the end of October 1984, compared to 2,034 ships docked during the same period of 1983. A Ports Corporation statistical bulletin said that the number of arriving and departing passengers reached 458,469 during last year against 433,787 during the same period of 1983. The weight of goods since the beginning of the last year until the end of last October was 5,701,160 tonnes compared to 4,142,005 tonnes during the same period of 1983 while the goods imported during the said period reached 5,170,847 tonnes against 2,670,855 tonnes imported during the same period of 1983, the bulletin said. The bulletin added that a total of 3,713,844 tonnes of phosphate were exported via Aqaba Port during the period from the beginning of 1984 until the end of October 1984 against 2,899,978 exported during the same period of 1983.

Chemistry seminar opens in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day seminar on "chemistry and society" opened at the Amman Chamber of Industry Sunday.

The seminar designed to highlight the importance of chemistry and its role in the progress of society was organised by the Jordanian Chemists Association (JCA) in cooperation with Yarmouk University. Addressing the opening session, Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran said that the use of chemistry and its applications make available

new elements that are useful for industry and agriculture and tend to reduce production costs.

"In fact, chemistry has been one of the most distinguishing aspects of the scientific and technology revolution," Dr. Badran said.

Also speaking in the session was Dr. Mohammad Salameh (JCA) president, who said that chemistry is required to secure most of the society's daily needs.

"Most of Jordan's major projects like phosphates and fer-

tilisers are based essentially on chemistry," Dr. Salameh said.

The seminar which is attended by chemists from the Royal Scientific Society, Yarmouk University and the University of Jordan will discuss chemical industries in Jordan, quality control in pharmaceutical industries, laboratory work, chemistry curriculum in secondary schools, occupational safety in chemical industries, dangers of chemical substances used in cement and other related topics.

Madaba Municipality studies projects

MADABA (Petra) — Madaba Municipality is currently studying the prospect of establishing an industrial area on a plot of land of 120 dunums. Madaba Mayor Ahmad Quteish said Saturday. Mr. Quteish added that the municipality has prepared studies and plans necessary for implementing the first stage of the project, costing some JD 700,000.

During the first stage, Mr. Quteish said, 100 stores and offices in addition to some roads and embankments will be constructed. During the second stage, another 150 stores will be constructed. The project is expected to yield an annual income of JD 100,000, he said.

Meanwhile, the municipality has started work on constructing a

vegetable market in the town, including eight stores and some public facilities at a cost of JD 28,000. Once the project is complete, it is expected to yield some JD 28,000 a year, Mr. Quteish said.

He added that the municipality had also started work on a commercial market at a cost of JD 162,000.

U.S. firm wins contract to provide technical advice on road maintenance

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Ministry of Public Works and the American engineering firm Deleuw Cather International Limited Sunday signed an agreement under which Deleuw Cather will provide technical advice to the ministry on highway maintenance, and draw up and help implement highway modernisation projects in Jordan.

Under the terms of the two-year agreement, which was signed by Minister of Public Works Rayef Nijm and Deleuw Cather General Manager Carlos Alvarez at a meeting held at the ministry, the American company will assign two highway maintenance experts to Jordan. One of the experts will be stationed at the ministry's Department of Highways while the other will be assigned for various districts of Jordan.

Mr. Alvarez described the contract, which is financed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), as a "modest step" in efforts launched by the Ministry of Public Works to improve the condition of Jordan's highways. "Of course, the condition of roads in Jordan is no different from any other developing country," he said.

"The truck traffic to and from the south (Aqaba) and in the east (towards Iraq) poses a major burden to Jordan's highways," according to Mr. Alvarez.

The agreement signed Sunday covers "institutional improvements in highway planning, scheduling, organising, construction, maintenance, reporting and extracting more productivity at low cost," he said.

The contract, also entails quick

updating on earlier studies made on Jordan's highways, and Deleuw Cather will also help the Ministry of Public Works implement earlier and updated recommendations to improve roads, he said.

"In essence, we will be setting up a management system to look after the Kingdom's highways and outline short-term and long-term objectives and goals," Mr. Alvarez said.

Deleuw Cather International Limited was founded in 1919 and is based in Washington D.C. It lists its major activity as "transport engineering" and has projects in several Arab and African countries. "We have in Kuwait a very similar project to what we have undertaken to do in Jordan and are pursuing a major project in Saudi Arabia," Mr. Alvarez said.

Ministry announces new speed limits for vehicles

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Interior Sunday announced maximum and minimum speed limits for all types of vehicles using roads in Jordan.

According to the regulations, the highest speed for small cars within town and village boundaries should not exceed 70 kilometres per hour (KPH), but 60 kph for lorries and medium passenger cars which have a weight exceeding five tonnes.

It said that this will be applicable if these vehicles run on main roads with multiple lanes and divided by a line or island in the middle. Small cars running on two-lane main roads with a dividing island should not exceed the 60 kph limit, while trucks and other vehicles with more than five tonnes weights should not exceed the 50 kph limit.

Small cars running on a two-way roads with no dividing island should not exceed 50 kph, while

trucks and other vehicles with more than five tonnes weights will have a maximum speed of 40 kph.

The regulations granted the Traffic Department and municipalities authority to reduce these speed limits for certain densely populated areas and to fix road signs to draw motorists' attention to it.

Also according to the regulations small cars running on highways should not exceed 90 kph while medium passenger vehicles and lorries of five tonnes and more should not run at more than 80 kph on roads with multiple-lanes and divided by an island.

The new regulations fixed 80 kph for small cars and 70 kph for medium cars and lorries while running on main roads but not div-

ided by an island in the middle, and 70 kph and 60 kph have been fixed for small and medium vehicles respectively when they run on rural roads.

The regulations authorised the Public Security Department and the Ministry of Public Works additional powers to exclude certain roads from these limits if required, or if they run through densely populated areas, provided special road signs are fixed to indicate that.

According to these regulations also, the minimum speed limit on main roads outside town and village boundaries should not be less than 30 kph provided these roads are divided by an island in the middle.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Interior said that these regulations have been issued to ensure public safety on roads and to rationalise the fuel consumption.

U.N. team due in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — A United Nations fact-finding mission is due here on Wednesday to investigate into the conditions of Arab labourers and Arab employers in the occupied West Bank and Palestine, according to an announcement here Sunday.

It said that the two-man mission will spend three days in Jordan in the course of a tour of the region following which they will present a report that would be reviewed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) meeting in Geneva in early June.

During the visit, the team will meet with officials from the ministries of labour and occupied territories affairs, the Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions, the Amman Chamber of Industry and the Palestine Liberation Organisation office in Amman.

Gang of port thieves nabbed in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — A band of thieves has been arrested and referred to court after committing a major robbery in Aqaba. A report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily said Sunday the four had stolen goods worth JD 20,000 and sold them to merchants in Zarqa and Amman.

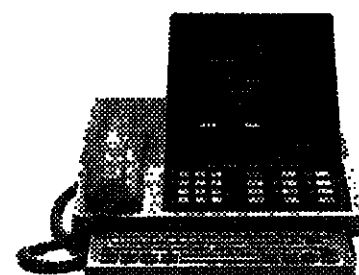
Ra'i said, the group transported six months ago. The stolen items, which included cameras, blankets, children's toys and tyres among other things, had been loaded in a container, awaiting delivery in Amman, the paper said. It said the four men had been employed by the Aqaba Port Authority for sometime and were dismissed.

Finding themselves unemployed, the gang members decided to steal goods from the port as they knew all its sections, the parking area of trucks and containers, the yard where goods are normally stored and the place of the guards as well as all entrances and exits, the paper said.

According to the paper the group made and executed a plan at night with great skill, using private cars to unload the container and slip away undetected. Later, Al Ra'i said, the group transported the goods from Aqaba to Amman and Zarqa where they sold them in the market.

When the robbery in Aqaba was discovered, police were alerted in Amman and other towns, and a search for the stolen goods was launched, the paper said. It was only when the stolen goods were found and identified that the police had their first lead to the robbers, the paper added. It said that several suspects in Amman and Zarqa were placed under constant surveillance for sometime until they fell into a trap.

WHEN IT'S A MATTER OF SECONDS BETWEEN PROFIT AND LOSS, IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO FINANCIAL DATA MAY MAKE THE DIFFERENCE.



INFORMATION IS MONEY, TIME IS MONEY. NORTHERN TELECOM'S SL-1 BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM HELPS YOU MANAGE BOTH MORE EFFICIENTLY.

Instant communication—be it voice or data—is crucial to your company's continued success. Northern Telecom's Displayphone™ terminal, in conjunction with our SL-1™ integrated voice and data business communications system, puts a world of information literally at your fingertips. When seconds can make the difference in the profitability of a foreign exchange deal or complex arbitrage transaction, money market and foreign exchange dealers use the SL-1 business communications system to obtain instantaneous updates on exchange and deposit rates. SL-1's ability to seek out the fastest, most economical communications lines in a network is only one of the ways the SL-1 system saves you money. With SL-1 you'll be prepared for cost effective growth of customer services. SL-1 integrated voice and data capabilities allow you to link local area networks and data processing equipment using existing telephone wiring. Eliminating the need for costly co-axial cable installation.

Northern Telecom is the largest manufacturer of fully digital telecommunications systems and products in the world. Serving hotels, hospitals, banks, industry and governments, Northern Telecom leads the way in the development of fully digital telecommunications technology. Investigate the excellence of the SL-1's technology, track record and service today.

*Trademarks of Northern Telecom Limited.

SEE US AT
MECOM85
EXHIBITION CENTRE
BAHRAIN
STAND #207,
FEBRUARY 4-7, 1985.

Regional Headquarters:
Northern Telecom MENA
Dubai

Khaleel Park House
10 Sheikh Park Drive
Madinat, Bahrain
SL 808 Bahrain
Tel. 828-3301
Telex: 849845

Regional Offices:
Northern Telecom MENA
United

Arab Republic of Egypt,
c/o Bahman Engineering,
5 Mahmoud Agha Street,
Zamalek, Cairo.
Arab Republic of Egypt
Tel. 41058/40238/409582
Telex: 95920

India,
c/o Anand Group WLL,
P.O. Box 5746
Manama, Bahrain
Tel. 258742
Telex: 7252

Jordan,
c/o United Trading Co.,
P.O. Box 1408
Amman, Jordan
Tel. 38386
Telex: 23382

Kuwait,
c/o Mafco,
P.O. Box 75
Safat, Kuwait
Tel. 471429
Telex: 4482

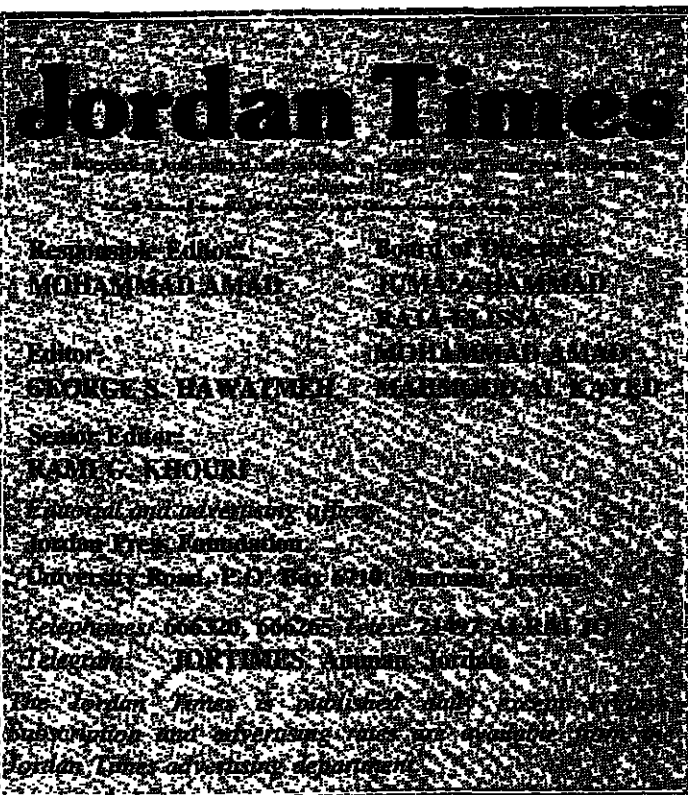
Saudi Arabia,
c/o Bahrain Telecommunications
Co. Ltd.,
P.O. Box 1874, Al Khobar
31932, Saudi Arabia
Tel. 884-88233
Telex: 671445

c/o Bahrain Telecommunications
Co. Ltd.
P.O. Box 6045
Jeddah 21442
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
Tel. 892-3247
Telex: 402109

c/o Bahrain Telecommunications
Co. Ltd.
P.O. Box 1223
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Tel. 478-4422
Telex: 205183

United Arab Emirates
c/o Bin Hamoodah
P.O. Box 203, Airport Road
Abu Dhabi
United Arab Emirates
Tel. 461168
Telex: 22404

nt northern
telecom



Dialogue on agriculture should be systematised

By Tareq Masarweh

WE REALLY appreciate the tours which Agriculture Minister Mohammad Al Bashir has been making around the country and his meetings with farmers in a number of regions. No doubt, it is a wise policy to have the officials out of their offices and into the field discussing with concerned people the issues pertaining to their work, and listening to people's views about their problems, especially a serious issue like agriculture. This policy brings us back to the old saying in Jordan that "crop production is the work of farmers and not office employees."

We really hope that information media and the press

will help convey to the citizens around the country details about the minister's meetings with the farmers. Indeed, the information media has a more important mission than just relaying to us the news about such meetings or dialogues or statements by the minister or his under secretary and their keenness on developing Jordan's agricultural sector. It is not enough to know that the Ministry of Agriculture has allocated JD 7 million for developing agriculture because we have no doubts about the government's concern in this field, and in supporting the farmers' work and helping them to produce more crops. What we

require at this stage is transforming the ideas and the money into a working plan: how to begin? And how and where to start? What are the means and methods to follow?

Agriculture and crop production is not a mere project that can be carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture or a scheme implemented by the government in some place or another... It is rather a living pattern and a pattern for production which is governed by defined conditions and circumstances. Allocating JD 7 million or even JD 70 million does not make a real change in the situation because the problem lies not in the sum that

can be invested in agriculture but rather in organising and managing the resources and manpower we possess and exploiting funds and implements...

We realise that Jordanian farmers have been doing their best to produce sufficient amounts of food for the country. Their production in the Jordan Valley and semi desert areas have indeed achieved record levels. The farmers are not really in need of additional support but rather require a market to sell their products and more coordination in production at the national level. We need to produce what the local market requires and to sell the surplus to other countries which offer us stable and permanent markets for our products.

All details about the dialogue and the debates in the meetings which take place between the minister and the local farmers should be published in full by the information media in Jordan, because it is of great concern to the public.

Once this dialogue is over, we call on the minister of agriculture to make a full study of its outcome with a group of leading farmers and representatives of crop producers, farmers' associations, fruit growers and animal breeders. Such groups of people are capable of offering good and constructive ideas about agriculture and the best means to develop it in the country. Such specialised meetings would offer the government a chance to put its plans into practice and would help invest the ministry's funds in the food-growing process through various organisations and corporations like the Jordan Cooperative Organisation and the Agricultural Credit Corporation. What is required is to adopt a well-planned agricultural scheme so as to make all the efforts of farmers and official and private organisations succeed.

Trading across the seas

THE FREE trade agreement between the U.S. and Israel is expected to be implemented within four months, according to Israeli officials. They say that the final hurdle to completing this "unique" agreement has been overcome and that legal experts are now drafting the text of the trade pact.

Meanwhile, European Community experts are now working out the details for the joining of Spain and Portugal by Jan. 1, 1986 after overcoming a wrangle over the terms for their entry only a few weeks ago.

Israel publicly admits that it is the most vulnerable among Middle Eastern countries to be hard-hit should Spain and Portugal join the community.

It is an undeniable fact that Israel will lose many advantages with Europe in the near future especially that it is presently suffering from 900 per cent inflation, drastic fall to foreign reserves, continued strikes, record bankruptcies and is planning to cut down thousands of jobs in order to cut spending.

Israel would not have relaxed its stance against Spain and Portugal and allowed its major market to be marginally taken over by them except for knowing and being assured by the United States that it is being rewarded more through its free trade agreement with Washington.

What goes along with this is the fact that a few weeks ago things were just going in the opposite direction.

The free trade agreement between the U.S. and Israel seemed to be facing insurmountable difficulties and there was wide criticism of the agreement among American congressmen and industrialists.

On the other hand, community officials were unsuccessfully trying to reach an agreement on the terms to offer the Iberian states with pressure mounting on Spain to recognise Israel and establish diplomatic ties with it.

These pressures, difficulties and obstacles have all of a sudden been worked out and the winner, thanks to the U.S. and its unflinching support, is nobody but Israel. This is yet another problem for the Arab World to grapple with.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S. vs. U.N. trend

THE UNITED STATES told the U.N. Security Council that it refuses an invitation to take part in an international conference on the Middle East. It has thus reaffirmed its opposition to the will of the international community and proved it does not feel embarrassed at all in persisting in its negative attitude towards this important world issue. At the same time the U.S. continues to claim before the world that it is keen on preserving the peace march.

Needless to say that this U.S. policy has thwarted all attempts so far towards achieving peace in the region and reflects Washington's arrogant attitude and its tendency to benefit from the no-war no-peace situation which exists in our region. This is not a mere conspiracy against the Palestinians and the Arabs but should be considered as a challenge to the United Nations itself, and its charter, which has been established to bring about peace in every corner of the world.

This policy reflects beyond doubt Washington's loss of its credibility and reaffirms to all nations the dimension of the conspiracy and collusion between the United States and the Israelis.

We cannot expect other nations to do our work for us nor can we expect others to convince the U.S. of its wrong policies in our region. The whole matter is left for us, and the Arabs should work hard to rise to the level of responsibility and take the initiative which perhaps can convince the U.S. of their right and just stand.

Al Dustour: North Africa summit positive

TUNISIAN PRIME Minister Mohammad Mzali has announced that a summit meeting for the Arab countries of North Africa will be held soon. This is delightful news, and one of the rare events that happen in the Arab World nowadays. It is very good news because it followed an escalation of tension among some of the North African countries on the Sahara issue, which threatened to lead to an armed struggle among them.

An agreement to hold a summit for the leaders of the North African Arab countries is a blessing for all Arabs since it will no doubt contribute towards unifying Arab ranks and should serve as a good example for the Arabs of Asia and the Arabian Peninsula. Of course, this summit will not be the final objective for the Arab people of North Africa but it is no doubt a great step forward in cementing Arab relations and ending weakness prevailing throughout the Arab World.

We hope that this summit will put an end to all disputes over the Sahara region so that the other Arab countries can set a good example for the Arabs of Asia to meet and unify their power in the face of their common enemy.

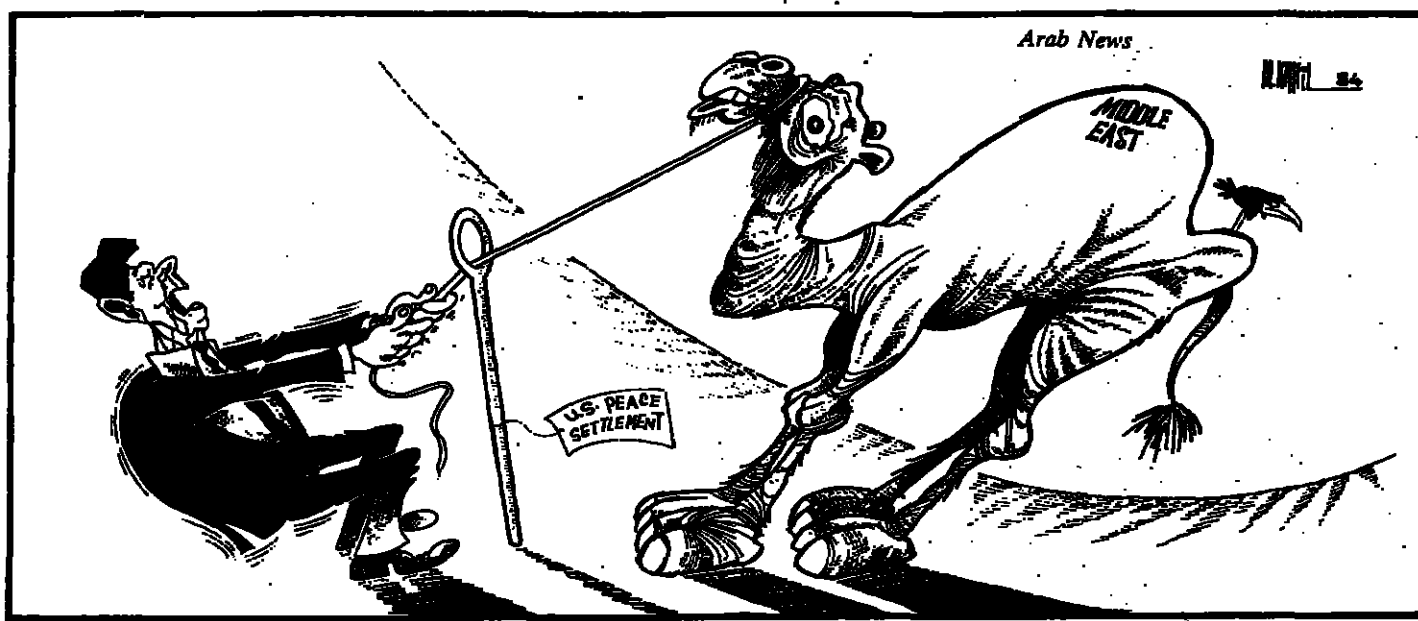
Sawt Al Sha'ab: Israel whips up internal conflict

FOLLOWING ISRAEL'S announcement that it was pulling out of South Lebanon, its Prime Minister Shimon Peres said that Israel will from now on take the initiative in Lebanon. It seems that Peres means what he says and that his plan to partially withdraw from Lebanon was only meant to pull out his troops from densely populated regions to safer ground.

Israel is determined to completely eliminate the resistance of the South by causing internal troubles and by inciting one faction against the other. It is no doubt counting on the weakness of the Beirut government itself and on its agents in the region, who can turn one Muslim faction against another or the Christians of the South against the Muslims, and so on.

The recent attempt on the life of a Sunni leader in the South, the continuous fighting among the factions in the territory and the resignation of a Sunni leader from the Lebanese government are the best proof of Israel's conspiracies and plots against Lebanon and its people. By pulling its troops from a limited zone in South Lebanon, Israel has thus left the region open to development of internal conflicts that are more dangerous to the Lebanese than its own occupation of their land.

Israel's objectives are the same whether it pulled out its troops from Lebanon or not, and the Lebanese people are called on to unite and to abort the Zionist dreams.



'Casualties, high cost make Israeli pullout from Lebanon inevitable,' says Sisco

By Jacquelyn S. Porth

WASHINGTON — "I have no doubt in my mind" that Israel will withdraw from Lebanon, Mr. Joseph Sisco asserted Jan. 25. However, the former under secretary of state for political affairs, said, some Arab countries continue to express doubts about Israel's intentions.

Mr. Sisco, who just returned from a tour of six Middle Eastern countries, said Israel's decision is motivated by a desire to reduce both casualties and costs. He called the proposed withdrawal "a fundamental strategic decision" that is supported by a "substantial majority" of public opinion in Israel.

Although he stressed the "ongoing concern" of the Israelis with respect to the security of Lebanon's northern borders, he said he still sees the Israeli plans "as a decision, in principle, to get out."

Under the sponsorship of the U.N. Information Agency, Sisco — as a private citizen — visited leaders in Iraq, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates to discuss U.S.-Middle East relations. In conveying some of his impressions of his trip, Mr. Sisco said his principal impression was that a number of these countries are "looking more inward, than they are externally."

Explaining further, Mr. Sisco said that while Israel has decided to withdraw from Lebanon, "its prime concern is internal," namely the economy. This was his conclusion after meeting with most of the key members of Israel's inner cabinet.

In the Gulf, there also is interest on how to resume the peace process. In Mr. Sisco's view, the major concern is the "sputtering, stalemated Iran-Iraq war." There too, most countries are looking inward, but focusing "on the implications of the shrunken oil revenues and what this means in terms of their ongoing growth."

Reflecting on King Hussein's

discussion with PLO leader Yasser Arafat, Mr. Sisco said, "It is my judgement that it is problematic, at best, as to whether his majesty" can obtain the necessary "Palestinian acquiescence" to begin negotiations based on U.N. Security Council Resolution 242. The King has come to this conclusion, he contended, because of the "very divided Palestinian movement." He observed that the PLO has never been as politically and militarily weak as it is today.

Mr. Sisco said he came away with the impression that if King Hussein were "able to take an initiative calling for a resumption of negotiations based on 242, the present leadership in Israel will try to find a way to be positively responsive to that kind of an initiative." He underlined the fact that this impression was obtained as "a private citizen." He also said that "it is not without significance that my impression is that Israel today does not want to be put into the position — if that should evolve — of seemingly to be opposing a resumption of the diplomatic process."

That represents "some change," Mr. Sisco said, "when you begin to look at the current government that has historically favoured territorial compromise" and contrast it with the previous government "whose prime emphasis was largely on de facto annexation."

Mr. Sisco said he carried away several impressions based on his discussions in Iraq. He noted, for example, that there is no assumption in Iraq that there will be "an early termination" of the Iraq-Iraq war. By all evidence, the Iraqis are preparing "for the long haul" by upgrading the pipeline passing through Turkey and by starting the process of building their second pipeline through Saudi Arabia. However, he noted that the plans for the third pipeline to Aqaba are "on the back burner" for financial reasons.

He said the resumption of U.S. diplomatic relations is "strongly welcomed" by the Iraqi leadership

for "political and psychological reasons." Mr. Sisco said the Iraqis hope there will be increased U.S. involvement with governmental institutions such as the Export-Import (EXIM) Bank and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC). He said they also expect "a renewed interest of the (U.S.) private sector" in Iraq. He was told repeatedly that "favourable treatment will be given to (U.S.) firms that position themselves now," once the Iran-Iraq war ends.

Noting that he has met more frequently with Syrian President Hafez Assad, than any other current or past American official — with the exception of former secretary of state Henry Kissinger — Mr. Sisco said "Damascus is not entirely comfortable in its position of relative isolation" within the region.

Mr. Sisco said the Syrians have "an interest in the total withdrawal of Israeli forces." The Syrians can be expected, in his view, to accept the idea that it is in the mutual interest of both Syria and Israel to avoid a confrontation over Lebanon. He expects that Syria "will act responsibly in avoiding a situation that could become a threat to the northern borders of Israel and could cause difficulties between Israel and Syria itself."

Responding to a question, he said there is the hope that the Syrians will exert control to keep the PLO from penetrating across the northern borders. But he said Syrians do not have "the same full control over the Shi'ites in southern Lebanon." However, he added, "if there is an ongoing occupation of Lebanon, on the part of the Israelis, even in a much more truncated, and much more modest area, that this intensifies the Shi'ite problem." He also said key Israeli leaders view the Shi'ite problem "as probably a greater danger in Lebanon today, potentially, than the PLO problem itself" because the Syrians are apt to keep the Palestinians under

control.

With respect to the peace process, Mr. Sisco said: "We still think that the principal parties are far apart," and that it makes sense for the U.S. to proceed with caution and not involve itself in "a bright, new, current, dynamic, visible, initiative" in circumstances where the parameters are not as close as they should be. He said this should not be viewed as a policy of U.S. disengagement, however.

Questioned about the possibility of an international conference on the Middle East, Mr. Sisco said: "The U.S. position has been that a conference raises more difficulties than it is apt to resolve."

On the forthcoming visits to the U.S. by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Saudi King Fahd, Mr. Sisco stressed that the two would focus largely on bilateral talks with President Reagan. A new peace initiative in the Middle East may also come up, but he said "whether there will be any new move will depend on whether there is a further evolution primarily in the discussions being conducted by King Hussein."

On the subject of OPEC, Mr. Sisco said he expects to see "a continuing, incremental reduction in oil prices" and "the inability of OPEC countries to increase their revenue." Not all officials "say this is all bad," according to Mr. Sisco's interpretations of his meetings in the region. Some officials told him it is "forcing us to flush out the system" and "forcing us to be more productive."

Mr. Sisco said that the reduced oil revenues are encouraging them to look at their development plans more realistically. While he does not foresee a breakup of OPEC, Mr. Sisco said, "I do not see it as an effective cartel with the kind of leverage that it had in the '70s." He underlined the fact that OPEC "does not have the economic and political capacity" that it once did.

No accord signed by Mousawi with Managua

By Bernd Debusmann

Reuter

MEXICO CITY — Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi has paid a visit to Nicaragua which prompted fresh criticism from Washington but produced no sign of accords that could have a major impact on Central America.

A few hours after Mr. Mousavi arrived in Managua on Thursday, President Reagan warned of a "new danger" in Central America because of Iranian support for Nicaragua's ruling Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN).

Middle Eastern and European diplomats here said they doubted the two-day visit would result in military or economic agreements that could substantially change the situation in the turbulent area.

Iran, once one of the richest countries in the Middle East, is in

the fifth year of a war with Iraq which has depleted Tehran's coffers and sharply reduced oil revenues.

"They really haven't got much cash to throw around now," one diplomat said.

Mr. Mousavi had talks with the Nicaraguan ministers for agricultural development, energy, external trade and foreign affairs. He said at the end of his visit that trade would increase and Iran would buy Nicaraguan beef and sugar.

The White House, in contrast, said Friday that Iran was discussing the supply of oil and arms funds to the Sandinists, whom the Reagan administration accuses of exporting left-wing revolution to the rest of Central America.

White House Spokesman Robert Sims did not explain how Washington knew what had been discussed in Managua, where U.S. diplomats frequently complain about their isolation and lack of access to government officials.

Nicaragua receives the bulk of its oil needs from Mexico, with additional supplies from the Soviet Union — which has also delivered an extensive arsenal ranging from AK-47 assault rifles and artillery to T-54/55 tanks.

Although Nicaragua's army is now estimated to number 64,000, foreign military experts say it would have difficulty in absorbing substantial new arms supplies.

The Nicaraguan Air Force is the smallest in Central America, with the exception of Costa Rica, and the Sandinists have often said they hoped to buy combat aircraft.

Iran, Western military experts say, has no aircraft to sell because it needs all of its planes in its war

with Iraq.

The vocal U.S. reaction to Mr. Mousavi's visit appeared to fall into a pattern of psychological warfare in which both the Sandinists and the United States have displayed what one European diplomat described as little regard for facts.

In November, Reagan administration officials leaked reports that Nicaragua was about to receive Soviet MiG-21 jet fighters. A major crisis between the two countries ensued but the report proved to be false.

Nicaragua responded by placing its armed forces on full alert, saying Washington was poised for military invasion.

In his statement on the Mousavi visit, President Reagan portrayed close Nicaraguan-Iranian relations as a new development in the turbulent region.

Swiss reexamine the role of the army

Accompanying the Swiss on manoeuvres with bicycle and tank troops Anthony McDermott detects a changed attitude to defence in a country traditionally proud of its neutral stance.

GENEVA — Switzerland has always been proud of the strictly neutral stance which has kept it out of foreign wars since 1815. But recently Lt. Gen. Jorg Zumbach, chief of general staff and the country's most senior soldier, has implied that a more pragmatic view might be necessary in times of crisis.

Previously, he has referred only to the inadequacy of the country's equipment. In his more recent statements, he has laid emphasis not just on improved arms but also on the will to fight, as demonstrated by troop morale and a somewhat more adventurous foreign policy.

The general also made the point that, as arms become more sophisticated and early warning times shorter, it could become necessary to expand the size of the professional army over the next 15 years.

The Swiss Army is based on being able to mobilise about 625,000 troops within 48 hours. Service is compulsory for men and the army depends on the intake of 40,000 recruits a year and about 400,000 reservists on Sunday refresher courses to back up the tiny pool of 3,000 professional soldiers.

Attitudes to defence are changing. The 1984-87 arms procurement programme has had to be reorganised following the purchase of 380 Leopard 2 tanks from West Germany and, more intriguingly, a national referendum has rejected civilian service as an alternative to army duty. Two committees have been set up by Mr. Jean-Pascal Delamuraz, the defence minister, to study the question of conscientious objectors.

The number of objectors, compared with recruits, is small — 745 in 1983. But it is causing concern, having risen steadily from 354 in 1980. Objectors to military service receive prison sentences of about six months and, given the standing and prestige of the Swiss Army, bear a social and political stigma thereafter. They are even excluded from certain careers.

But two days spent on manoeuvres, with recruits, first from the Bicycle Troops and then from the more elite Tank Corps, leave a strong impression that Swiss 20-year-olds see it largely as a valuable and character-forming experience.

"It will also help me later in my civilian career," said one tank corporal (tipped to become an officer by one of his seniors). Of the 17 week induction course, another soldier said, "we may not like it at first, but we get used to it and perhaps even enjoy it at the end."

It brings together a wide variety of backgrounds. As an officer reviewed a platoon of bicyclists they were required to name their professions or studies: "engineer... machinist... medical student... private pilot... ski instructor..."

...electronic engineer... dentistry student... There is little doubt that the training period is tough. Those recruits who thought that going for the Bicycle Troops would be a softer option than the infantry must now be thinking again. By the end of training they will have covered more than 3,000 kilometres often carrying machine guns and mortars in loads up to 40 kilos.

Bicycles may look unwieldy when lying down on their sides for troops' inspection parades. But they move quietly and swiftly across the central, flat heartland of Switzerland, where key defensive battles might have to be fought. The exercise was arduous, with live ammunition in a bleak narrow valley dappled with snow at up to 1,900 metres at Iffigenalp in the Bernese Oberland.

Ammunition was not spared, a fact magnified by the echoes ringing round the mountains. One officer estimated that the two-run, 20 minutes exercise of retreat in front of an enemy tank force before positions were retaken cost SwF 20,000 (£7,588) in ammunition. (In a year, the army spends SwF 190 million).

The repeat exercise was abruptly ended when one recruit was injured by rock chips caused by a grenade. He was carried painfully down the mountainside to an ambulance. The ambulance travelled past the barracks, where sleeping bags were laid out in stalls where the cattle spend the winter after grazing in the upper pastures.

Tank training is a somewhat different proposition. Unusable terrain and inhabited areas mean there is a limited number of areas where mechanised vehicles can move with the freedom of a NATO Lionheart exercise.

One of three areas consists of 2,900 hectares in hills around Petit-Hongrin, wholly owned by the government and 15 kilometres south-east of Montreux. Here the army has built a network of paved roads for driving practice, and firing positions from which troops are able to bombard targets up to three or four kilometres away on hill and mountainside.

Again, in their first experience of live firing since they began training some 15 weeks earlier, tank recruits were allowed an almost prodigious quantity of ammunition. At the peak of one afternoon up to 50 somewhat aged p3 61 and p3 68 Swiss-made tanks (the number designates the year in which parliament allocated funds for their construction) were pounding away non-stop from several firing points.

The major, who is deputy of the tank training school, made wry faces and wiggled his fingers in disapproval at their performance but concluded "in the end they will be all right."

Financial Times news feature.

LETTERS

Helping public psychology?

To the Editor:

IT WAS heartening to note the new government — campaign to rationalise energy consumption, and it also brought in a relief that electricity prices will be maintained in the wake of positive public response to the call.

However, it appears that at least some of the citizens have not realised how important it is to cut down energy consumption. On the contrary, I have been seeing a vacant multi-storey building near the Third Circle fully bright throughout nights for the past week. Apparently, the owner of the building thinks that a fully-lit building attracts the attention of passers-by who might be interested in renting it. Granted the building is nicely-built, with its steel-like one-way glass and beautiful design, one fails to grasp the reasoning of the owner to maintain all the lights on throughout nights. Can someone, somewhere do something about it?

Ahmad Abbas,
Amman.

Soaring population aggravates 'Third World' poverty

By Talal Al Waraql

A SIGNIFICANT cause of the food crisis in developing nations has been the population explosion since World War II. Before 1940, the less developed areas of Asia, Africa and Latin America were net exporters of wheat, rice and maize or corn to industrialised nations. After World War II, soaring population growth reversed that flow.

In the post-World War II era, government leaders of many developing nations did not come from agricultural backgrounds. They made a fatal mistake. They evaluated socio-economic progress in terms of the industrial West. They hoped industrial development would enable them to rapidly dup-

licate the wealth of developed countries. They rushed to build showcase projects — big dams, industrial plants and urban business projects. All this diverted development from where it was most needed, in rural areas where most people lived.

Often, whatever agriculture the governments emphasised centred on the development of a few major cash crops for export. Why? To earn foreign exchange to support industrial, military and urban development projects. These projects benefited only a minority of citizens — usually urban population, the government's major supporting constituency.

Any nation involved in high industrial-urban development that cannot yet grow and feed its

own people a diet of staple foods undercuts its growth and long-term success. We can name two important reasons for that:

Whenever staple food production is insufficient to satisfy consumption needs of a country, food must be imported at high purchasing and shipping costs. Such costs compete with and deplete financial reserves needed for other development projects.

The consequently reduced purchasing power of vast, poor rural populations does not enable the masses to afford the products of their own fledgling industry.

Often these industrial goods must be exported and subsidised (draining more development funds) because they face stiff competition from more efficient

producers elsewhere. And income from the few critical cash crops is often unpredictable because of rapidly changing world demand and prices.

Eventually, rural areas of many developing nations may not support the pressures of a growing population. Add to this bad weather, indebtedness and warfare. Poor, dispirited and land-disfranchised masses then flee to urban areas in hopes of finding food and employment. Instead, what many find is further poverty, hunger and a new kind of squalor.

Once rural masses flee their lands, the movement creates a further drain on their nation's scant resources. Governments must then use financial reserves from cash crops sold in export to import

staple foods for ever increasing non-food producing urban hordes. All such expenses could be avoided with prosperous agriculture.

Workable solutions

Improved agricultural development and support-services in farming areas would provide the stable employment and security rural masses seek and need. It would give them a high sense of purpose and satisfaction by providing food and produce of many kinds for themselves and others. Successful farmers would find much greater happiness in their own familiar surroundings and culture.

Making the rural areas of developing nations more prosperous, through the growing and selling of surplus food to urban areas or for export, opens up new economic development and markets for the whole nation. As farmers increase income through selling their agricultural surplus, they become buyers of more goods and services. Prosperous farmers can also be a primary source of investment in their nation's industrial development.

Hunger in food-short nations cannot be eliminated without first overcoming poverty in rural areas; and poverty in these areas cannot be eliminated without successful rural and agricultural development.

Music pirates make big money stealing the delicate way

Recording companies lose millions each year to 'pirate operators,' who make illegal tapes of their best-selling artists. Charles Batchelor reports on the industry's fight to stamp out piracy.

LONDON — When the Peking-registered freighter, the Ping Ding Shan, steamed into the small West African port of Cotonou last September, customs officials were waiting.

The progress of the vessel had been followed for several weeks by investigators attempting to stamp out the growing trade in pirate recordings. They tracked the ship (its owners, the China Ocean Shipping Company, its master and crew are innocent parties in this matter) as it sailed from Singapore and up the west coast of Africa.

When it tied up in Cotonou, the main port of Benin, a long tongue of a country sandwiched between

Nigeria and Togo, a tip-off to the local copyright office led customs officials to seize tapes. After experts had travelled from Nigeria to inspect them, they were confirmed as bootleg recordings.

"This was Benin's first major bust," said Mr. Mike Edwards, coordinator of the International Federation of Phonogram and Videogram Producers (IFPI) which has its headquarters in London.

"They have only just passed a law out there to ban pirate tapes. They have a very vigorous copyright office."

The next step should be destruction of the tapes. But seizure of the bootleg cargo is not always a

guarantee of victory in the war against counterfeiters. Out of a shipment of 80,000 tapes being held in Nigeria, 60,000 were stolen later.

The value of the illegal recording industry does not match that of the narcotics trade, but it is big business. The Benin shipment was worth about \$930,000. Individual tapes would have sold for the equivalent of \$4.90 in Nigeria, undercutting legitimate tapes which retail at \$6.75.

The pirate manufacturers' profits would have been much greater than that of the bona fide makers. With no copyright and performers' royalties, original recording and advertising costs, dealer and distributor discounts to be paid, the bootleg tapes cost about 30 cents each to make. Counterfeiters copy only big-selling

tapes. Legitimate companies bear the costs of less popular recordings.

Apart from the damage caused to the legitimate recording industry, investigators point to the losses to the state in the form of unpaid taxes and duties.

This piracy is often connected with, and may finance, other forms of crime, undermining law enforcement in small, developing countries. Unlike other forms of crime, this often involves little risk, particularly when the tapes are sold in a different country to that of manufacture.

"A criminal can become a cassette pirate for the same cost as obtaining a sawn-off shotgun for robbery — with no risk and a higher return," says Mr. Edwards.

The IFPI is the recording industry's international co-ordinator of its efforts against piracy but

works with a budget which is tiny compared with the sums which can be reaped by the pirates. It has about \$600,000 a year to spend and estimates funds available to the national copyright bodies at only \$6 million-\$12 million.

Apart from its London headquarters, the federation has offices in Hong Kong — where tough law enforcement measures cut the pirates' share of the local market from 95 to 5 per cent during seven years — and Singapore. It has a representative in the Middle East and plans to open an office in Kuala Lumpur in November. Affiliate organisations work in the U.S., South America and Australia.

Recording pirates are ready to use violence against investigators. One in Australia had his home fire-bombed, shots were fired at

another in Thailand. Other agents have been threatened in Europe.

A big difficulty for the regulators is that many countries do not attach much importance to this piracy. They have either not ratified international conventions established to protect the industry, or they impose inadequate penalties on the pirates when caught.

The IFPI has been lobbying hard to get governments to take a tougher line. The recent establishment of the Joint Anti-Piracy Intelligence Group (Japig) is another step.

"We are trying to draw the strands together," said Mr. Joe Palmer, who will head Japig. "There is quite a large number of very determined people going about this" — Financial Times news feature.

Life after 2000 will witness new variety of occupations

By Barbara S. Moffet

WASHINGTON — "And what do you do?" may still be the favourite question of 21st-century cocktail parties, but the answers will add up to something new.

Most Americans will be working information-related fields, futurists say. Hardly anyone will work in factories, and even fewer on farms.

There will be more biologists than there are today, and, because of the older population, more paramedics and geriatric social workers. The number of restaurateurs and travel agents will increase to help us fill our expanding leisure time.

The cocktail party may include a genetic-engineering specialist or a robot technician. And sometime next century, we may travel in social circles with a space-flight attendant or a space pharmacist.

But telephone operators, postal clerks, meter readers, and aircraft structure assemblers may be hard to find. New technologies could make many of their jobs unnecessary.

New choices

The view of the 21st century remains a bit murky in 1984, but technological breakthroughs occurring today — especially the development of industrial robots, telecommunications, and biotechnology — guarantee that the worker of 2000 and beyond will face a choice of occupations different from today's.

There will still be doctors, lawyers, and merchants, but automation will send the bank teller, the supermarket checkout clerk, the meter reader, and the machine that makes the elevator operator, the milkman, and the bowling insister.

A bulletin board of job openings might contain these descriptions: Biomedical engineer — Makes bionic arms, legs, hands, and feet, as well as instruments to let the blind see and the deaf hear. — Laser inspection technician — Installs and maintains laser devices used everywhere from grocery checkouts to factories. — Hazardous waste technician — Monitors, collects, transports, and disposes of hazardous wastes. — High-skilled paramedic — under the eye of a portable TV camera, performs emergency procedures on accident victims, supervised by doctors watching monitors at a hospital.

More women, elderly

The century will see more women and older people on the job, futurists say. More people will work at home, especially the handicapped, who will be able to "telecommute" to an all-electronic office by computer.

Whatever we do, we'll probably do less of it. "In the last 100 years, we cut our number of working hours in half, and I think we'll do that again in half the time," says John Naisbitt, author of the book "Megatrends." But few workers will hold one job for life; changing technologies will force a series of

career changes and mid-career training sabbaticals.

W. Clyde Helms of Occupational Forecasting Inc. in Fairfax, Va., is convinced that Americans are not ready for the jobs of the future. "The future doesn't begin at 12:01 a.m. Jan. 1, 2000; it's happening today," he asserts. "The youths entering school today are the work force of the 21st century."

Technology has led in the evolution of the typical American worker, from farmer to factory labourer to information specialist. Today more than half of all Americans work in creating, processing, and disseminating information — programmers, teachers, secretaries, accountants, insurance people, engineers, librarians, television and newspaper reporters — and the percentage is increasing.

Manufacturing is shrinking, too. In 1980, 28 per cent of the work force was in manufacturing. The percentage is expected to drop, possibly to only three percent by 2030, says S. Norman Feingold, president of National Career and Counseling Services in Washington.

Increasing numbers of blue-collar workers are in service jobs rather than manufacturing. Already, far more people work for McDonald's, for example, than for U.S. Steel.

Vital computers

The computer is the heart and brain of our information-based society. Of the five fastest-growing occupations listed by the U.S. Department of Labor, four are in the computer field. More computers undoubtedly will mean more computer security experts, people who try to protect computer systems from outside meddles.

Computers will continue to evolve, changing people's jobs as they go. The all-electronic office will rewrite some job descriptions. Alvin Toffler points out in his book "The Third Wave." Typing, the central function of today's secretary, will become obsolete, he says, with the advent of dictation equipment that will convert spoken words into writing.

The role of lawyers may shift, says Charles Craver, a law professor at the University of Illinois. "With a home computer, you'll write a will without help from a lawyer — you'll just fill out a questionnaire and send it to your lawyer electronically," he says.

Prof. Craver, whose specialty is labour law, says the drain of industry to foreign sites will continue as long as U.S. wages remain so much higher than those of developing countries. Mending fences with China, he says, could sap American jobs. "If China allows outside companies unlimited access to its one billion people, I shudder to think how many manufacturing jobs we could lose."

The American assembly-line worker in 2000 may be a robot, and eventually the traditional assembly line may disappear completely. Robots and related forms of automation are already here; most analysts believe there will be

several hundred thousand robots at work by 2000.

Mixed blessing

These "steel-collar" workers inevitably will displace many blue collar — especially autoworkers, metal workers, and machinists — but they also will eliminate some drudgery and dangerous work. This type of automation will create future jobs such as robot technicians, who will programme, install, or maintain industrial robots.

Automation also may open doors for women. Few factory jobs will require brawn; instead, the worker will sit at a keyboard punching out programmes that control robots.

The technology might even boost overall industry employment. During the industrial revolution, for example, the introduction of the Hargreaves jenny allowed one worker to produce as much as 200 spinners had. Yet employment in the British textile industry tripled, because productivity meant large price reductions and increased demand.

IBM Corporation, which has been making robots for three years, is planning for the day when computers, robots, and other automation merge to guide a product from design through manufacture. But the idea depends on highly skilled technicians, who are in short supply. To prepare for the future, IBM is financing a \$50-million automation training programme at engineering colleges.

The telecommunications industry also is multiplying faster than skilled technicians. "We expect as much as a 300 per cent increase in employees by 2000," says Dr. Bennett Berman, manager of network operations, technical training, and education for MCI Telecommunications.

The bulk of MCI's employees work in long-distance telephone service today, he says, but the company's 21st-century workers more likely will be involved in telecommunications.



biology that is just now blooming — cellular radio (a form of mobile telephone), electronic mail, or personal computers that will tap the nation's libraries.

Biological specialists

Among the job fields that promise more demand for specialists is biotechnology, including genetic engineering, says Nelson Schneider, a financial analyst specialising in biotechnology for the brokerage firm of E.F. Hutton & Co. Microbiologists and molecular biologists will be needed for the new wave of drugs, and biochemical engineers will be sought for the specialty chemicals industry, he says.

Even farmers will need help from biologists if ideas such as nonsynthetic pesticides bear fruit. "I think there will be some great

jobs for scientists in agriculture," Mr. Schneider says.

Some futurists say the most exciting 21st-century jobs will be out of this world. "There will be an abundance of jobs in space," says Carol Rosin, author of "Space Careers," published this year. "Construction workers creating habitats for people, miners, geologists, farmers, engineers, educators..."

Her co-author, Charles Sheffield, agrees. "Once the space station goes up, which will happen in this century, there will be scientists studying Earth phenomena from the vantage point of space," he says. Space's vacuum is the ideal environment for producing certain drugs, he says, and space's isolation will make it inviting to scientists doing risky research on genetic engineering.

"Eventually the economics will reverse, and it will be cheaper to make the things needed in space up there rather than on Earth. By 2050, they'll manufacture everything we now manufacture on Earth."

The authors warn, however, that development of space weapons would severely curtail job possibilities there.

Large-scale employment in space is years away, says Jesco von Puttkamer, programme manager for long-range planning at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

"Space is not a vacation resort with pretty beaches to walk on," he says. "It needs a lot of technology to make it hospitable. Space is creating some jobs, but most will be done here on Earth." — National Geographic feature.

Randa Habib's Corner

The merchants of lettuce

THE AMMAN-Irbid road is one of the nicest and the most wooded in the country. When the road becomes sinuous in certain areas, the beauty of nature that surrounds you on both sides makes you forget the problems of driving. I noticed the other day that in the "lettuce season", your journey to Irbid can become a real torture instead of being agreeable.

A car ahead of you is carrying a happy daddy, a mammy and three children. From their gesture, you can guess they are singing happily. Suddenly, the car pulls up to the right side of the road narrowly missing your car, which is right behind it, and stops near a merchant of lettuce.

Daddy and mammy step out of the car as if nothing has happened and start choosing lettuces. The merchant, who is displaying his produce as if they were trophies, is bargaining with the potential customers. When the deal is over, the family returns to the car, with each of its members carrying a lettuce in his hand, and the happy parade resume their journey.

Soon, from the open windows of the car, pieces of lettuce leaves start flying into the air, thrown by our friends, who only eat the heart of the now most seasonable vegetable. Few minutes later another car stops opposite another lettuce cart, again narrowly missing a crash. And the same scenario starts again: You can see lettuce leaves flying out of cars' windows. Another car stops near another display and you just cannot take it any more.

I have nothing against people who like eating lettuce and who like to buy them on the way to their picnic, but the threat of accidents on this international road because of lettuces is something that cannot be tolerated.

It would be much safer and more practical if lettuce merchants were instructed to display their produce in areas where the road is wider and the visibility is better. Also our dear drivers should pay more attention when pulling up to buy lettuce and to make an indication of their intention to stop for the cars behind. No one likes to die, let alone to die for the sake of a lettuce.

U.S. surgeons cite benefit of mechanical heart

By Jim Fuller

WASHINGTON — U.S. doctors responsible for implanting an artificial heart in 52-year-old William Schroeder last November say the procedure could one day save the lives of hundreds of thousands of people around the world.

Doctor William DeVries, who implanted Mr. Schroeder's Jarvik-7 artificial heart on Nov. 25, and Doctor Robert Jarvik, the inventor of the heart, spoke to foreign audiences at the U.S. Information Agency's Worldnet television news conference Jan. 17. The Worldnet programme included questions from participants in Paris, Bonn, Madrid, Brussels, The Hague and Tel Aviv.

Dr. DeVries reported that Mr. Schroeder, only the second recipient of an artificial heart, is doing very well following his operation at the Humana Heart Institute-Audubon in Louisville, Kentucky, and should be returning home from the hospital shortly.

The Jarvik-7 heart replaces the natural lower heart ventricles, which are removed during surgery, and is anchored by stitches to the atria, or upper chambers, the aorta and the pulmonary artery. Air hoses that make the device beat enter the body near the navel.

Mr. Schroeder was connected by tubes to a 145-kilogramme air compressor at the foot of his bed following the operation. Later he was connected to a portable unit powered by a rechargeable battery pack.

Dr. DeVries, the only surgeon authorised by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to implant an artificial heart in humans, implanted the first artificial heart in Barney Clark on Dec. 1, 1982. Mr. Clark lived 112 days before succumbing to pneumonia complications.

Dr. DeVries said Mr. Schroeder, who had coronary artery disease and cardiomyopathy, a disease that damages the heart muscle, probably had no more than 24 hours to live before the artificial heart operation.

"As I watch him go and do physical therapy... and take part in his life and look at his lifestyle... I think it's a real testimony to modern science and technology that his can be done today," Dr. DeVries said.

He added however that Mr. Schroeder is living on a day-to-day basis. "We really don't know how long he will live. He's essentially taking one day at a time... sooner or later he probably will die of the artificial heart either breaking or malfunctioning. And until that time comes he has to live as full a life as he possibly can and that's the gift that we give him in exchange for him taking part in this experiment procedure."

Dr. DeVries added that if the experiment is successful as many as 50,000 people a year could benefit from the artificial heart in the United States alone, where about 1,000 people a day die of heart disease. He said a third artificial heart implant would be performed at the Humana Heart Institute as soon as a suitable patient could be found.

Dr. Jarvik said however that the number of patients would not increase beyond 50 or 100 a year for quite some time. "We won't see that occur until the results that are achieved are very, very good, until people are... living for a long time and really have few complications," he said.

Dr. Jarvik estimated that artificial heart implants will be performed at half a dozen medical centres in the United States and abroad this year, and possible at 20 centres in 1986.

Possible complications that now exist with the implant of an artificial heart include excessive bleeding immediately following the operation, a stroke resulting from clots that come from the artificial heart, or infections that can occur anywhere from two to three years after the operation.

Mr. Schroeder suffered a stroke on Dec. 13, but has made steady progress adapting to the mechanical heart since then. "He did have an embolus and it probably came from the artificial heart," Dr. DeVries said. "We don't know for sure. It may have come from the natural aorta or the atria that were still connected. But we think that the highest probability is that it came from either the artificial heart or the valves. And that is a problem that artificial heart valves... have had in common. And that's an issue that needs to be addressed."

The Jarvik-7 artificial heart, made mostly of polyurethane supported on an aluminium base, has withstood over four years of continuous machine testing and has been implanted in hundreds of animals. Even so, the first one used in Mr. Clark suffered a broken valve. Schroeder's artificial heart is identical to the one used in Mr. Clark except the design now has stronger valves to prevent past problems.

Although each artificial heart implant is now estimated to cost between \$100,000 and \$150,000, Mr. Jarvik said he expected the price to come down markedly in the future.

"I sincerely believe that the cost of saving someone's life with this technology can be the same or less than the cost of somebody dying in their last couple of years of chronic heart failure with repeated hospitalisations," he said. "So as his can be done today." Dr. DeVries said.

Asked if "Third World" countries could make use of the artificial heart, given the current cost of the operation, Dr. DeVries replied, "I think that some of the poorer nations... are going to have to develop some type of contractual arrangements with those that have the technology. I think it's a highly specialised technology that can only be used by a few at this time."

Dr. Jarvik said there have been several refinements in heart design since Mr. Clark received the first artificial heart two years ago. These include a stronger valve, made of a single piece of titanium and a portable air compressor.

Dr. Jarvik said he didn't foresee the development of a totally self-contained heart without external connections within the next 10 to 20 years.

Electronic arms, activated by motion sensors and electrical signals from the skin, brighten the future of a Seattle victim of a powerline accident. New replacements for damaged body parts — blood vessels,

skin, joints, hearts, and ears — will mean more work for the next century's biomedical engineers.

FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT IN SHMEISANI

- 1- Three bedrooms, salon, kitchen, bathroom, veranda with telephone and central heating.
- 2- One bedroom, salon, kitchen, bathroom, small garden with telephone and central heating.

Call Tel: 668283

FLAT FOR RENT

Area: 200 sq.m. For information please call at Um Al Summaq, Abdullah Ghosheh Street.

Tel: 810950

FOR RENT

Furnished or unfurnished one bedroom apartment with sitting room, bathroom, kitchen. Location: Near 7th Circle.

Call Tel: 28275 - Mr. Zreikat from 4-6 p.m.

WANTED

Active company looking for active secretary. Excellent English, typing, telex. Immediate start. Good conditions.

Please contact Tel: 21881, 23223

Former champion involved in Monte Carlo Rally accident

MONTE CARLO (R) — Former world champion Ari Vatanen of Finland was involved in an accident which left two spectators injured in the Monte Carlo Rally Sunday, rally organisers said.

The organisers quoted police as saying the spectators slipped down a bank onto the road just as Vatanen's Peugeot neared the end of the second special speed test at Saint Bonnet le Froid.

One of the spectators suffered a broken leg and the other escaped with bruises, organisers said. They were taken to a local hospital. The

windscreen of Vatanen's car was shattered.

Vatanen, fastest over the first timed section at Dunieres, near Saint-Etienne, lost time because of the incident.

He finished the 26-km second stage 19 seconds slower than West German Walter Roehri, winner of the world championship event four times in the past five years. But he regained time on Roehri's Audi in the third of the day's

five trials which takes the rally to an overnight stop at Domaine du Rouret in the Ardeche region, south of Saint-Etienne.

The Dunieres section received rare live television coverage, a boost for the rally which was nearly cancelled because of a row between the Monaco organisers and the French motor sport federation over a proposed French levy.

The two cars which failed to reach Saint-Etienne were a Citroen Visa driven by Monaco's Christian Bianchi and the Lancia of French entrants Dominique Gauthier and Marie-Christine Lallement.

Tottenham knocked out of F.A. Cup

LONDON (R) — Liverpool reached the fifth round of the English Football Association (F.A.) Cup with a hard-fought 1-0 win over Tottenham Hotspur in their fourth round tie Sunday.

A 17th minute goal by their Welsh international striker Ian Rush, his 13th in 17 games since recovering from a cartilage operation, settled the outcome of a match played on a hard and partly snow-covered pitch in front of a live television audience.

Rush scored after a poor clearance by Tottenham goalkeeper Ray Clemence. He robbed defender Graham Roberts and ran on to score with an angled shot as Clemence dived at his feet.

Jordanian football team returns from Egypt

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian national football team returned home Sunday after a visit to Egypt lasting several days. The visit was on an invitation from the Egyptian Police Athletic Union on the occasion of the

Police Day in Egypt.

The team which was headed by the Football Federation General Secretary Osama Maqadadi included 21 players and played two matches with Egyptian teams.

Sudan's Meriekh beats Tanzanians

KHARTOUM (R) — Meriekh of Sudan beat Tanzania's Simba 2-1 here Saturday night to take third place in the East and Central African Soccer Championships. Simba are placed fourth.

The match ended in a goalless draw after the 90 minutes, with all three goals scored in extra time. Meriekh scored in the 97th

minute and again from a penalty early in the second half of the extra period.

Simba netted a penalty five minutes from the end for a consolation goal.

Two Kenyan sides, Leopards and Gor Mahia, play in the final of the championship.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

A three bedroom apartment for rent in Um Utheina Commercial Area. Spacious reception and dining area, two bathrooms, central heating, telephone.

For further information please call: 21817 or 812885

Sind Sie eine deutsch sprechende Sekretärin? Dann bewerben Sie sich bei.

General Electronics Corp.
P.O. Box 182099
Amman - Jordan

Furnished apartment for rent

Two bedrooms, small salon, kitchen and bathroom. New building, full electrical equipment, central heating with telephone. Location: Between 4th and 5th Circles.

For more information call Tel: 674821

FOR RENT

Two-bedroom, two-bathroom villa with central heating and telephone near the University of Jordan.

Please call 672013 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

LUXURY PENTHOUSE APARTMENT FOR RENT

300 sq.m. fully furnished with telephone, excellent location near Um Utheina Commercial Centre.

Inquiries from 10:00 to 13:00, Tel: 665273.

FOR SALE

Chevrolet "Malibu" 1978, Excellent condition, Interesting price.

Phone: 42351 ext. 19

PASSPORT LOST

Left in a taxi in Jabal Amman, 1st Circle. Name: Danilo M. Landich. Passport number 1196779.

Issued on Sept. 11, 1980 in Manila, Philippines and valid until Sept. 11, 1984.

FOR RENT

Furnished apartment consisting of one bedroom, living room, kitchen and bathroom. With central heating and telephone.

Location: Jabal Amman, between 3rd and 4th Circles. Tel: 41443

NOTICE

**AQABA RAILWAY CORPORATION
MULTI-MODE TRANSPORT PROJECT - JORDAN**

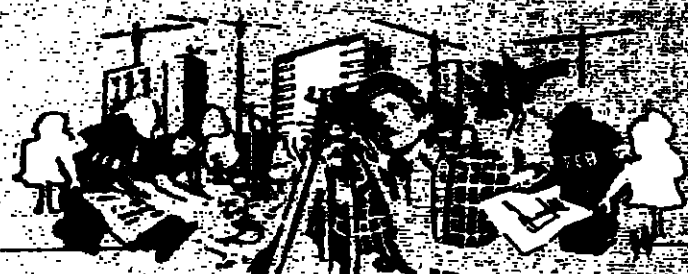
PERMANENT WAY MATERIALS TENDER

No. 1/85

The following amendments may please be noted:

The last date for submission of the offers at ARC's office at Ma'an shall be 12.00 noon on 1.4.1985 instead of 16.3.1985. Other conditions remain unchanged.

DIRECTOR GENERAL

**FEB****CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS**

Concrete Admixtures
Curing Compounds
Form Oils & Coatings
Expansion Joints Sealants
& Epoxy Repair Compounds
Expansive Greeting Systems

Tile Adhesives
Bonding Agents
Decorative Coatings
Flooring Compounds
Bituminous Tanking & Membrane Systems

No. 1 FOR SERVICE *****

DISTRIBUTED BY:

F.A. KETTANEH & CO. LTD.

NAOUR RD. J.T.V. CROSS ROADS

CENTRAL STORES - TELEPHONE 778642

MAIN OFFICE - KING HUSSEIN ST.

TELEPHONE: 36144/5 36246/39072

TELEX: 21234 TANIS JO

21173 TANIS JO

If You Want to Know What's
Going on at the Marriott...
... it's **TOP SECRET**



The Marriott welcomes you to the **Marriott Night Club**.
-Start at 8.30 p.m. till late - No cover charge.

AMMAN **Marriott** HOTEL **ماريوت**

SCANDINAVIAN SHOWROOM

- ★ Living rooms
- ★ Dining rooms
- ★ Bedroom sets
- ★ Wall units
- ★ Lighting fixtures
- ★ Club B for children
- ★ Modern Danish design
- ★ Feather upholstery
- ★ Danish-Pack Homes
- ★ Tax-free if applicable

Tel. 66389/ Civil defence street

The youthful style with an eye to the future

To advertise in this section



Phone 666320

RESTAURANT CHINA

Airconditioned
The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan
1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahliyyah Girls School

Open daily
12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. - Midnight
Tel. 38968

CHINESE RESTAURANT TAIWAN TOURISMO

3rd Circle, Jabal Amman, Opposite Akilah Hospital.

PEKING DUCK & FLAMING POT FONDUE ARE OUR SPECIALITIES

VISIT SOON!

Open daily 12:00-3:30 PM
6:00 PM to Midnight
Tel. 41093

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket
Mongolian Barbecue for lunch FRIDAY
Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialties
Open daily
12:00 noon - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. - Midnight

CHINA RESTAURANT

ABOVE HONAN SUPERMARKET

The first and best Chinese restaurant in Amman

Take-away service available
Open daily 11:30-3:30 and 6:30-11:00

AQABA, Tel. 4415



CROWN INTERNATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT
packing, shipping, forwarding, international moving, storage, clearing, door-to-door service

Agents all over the world
Tel: 664880/1; 22886 (BAMCO JO)
Cable: New Jordan, P.O. Box 15647 AMMAN JORDAN

**Cinema CONCORD**

Tel: 44092-44280

STREETS OF FIRE

(Colour)
Tel: 677420
Performances 3:30, 6:30, 10:30

Cinema AL-HUSSEIN

Tel: 22117

WATCH OUT WE'RE MAD

(Colour)
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 25155

GHOSTBUSTERS

(In Colour)
3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.

Cinema OPERA

Tel: 22117

GHOSTBUSTERS

(in colour)
Abadi, behind ALIA offices

Cinema PALESTINE

Tel: 22117

1- COUP D'ETAT

2- CALIFORNIA MATCHES
Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

RUSH

(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Philadelphia

Stars: S.T. R. P. E. S.

Shows at 3:30 6:30 10:15

TEL. 34144-34149

French economic successes boost Socialist government

PARIS (R) — France's economy is heading into 1985 in leaner, fitter shape than seemed likely a few months ago, with a series of upbeat figures boosting the image of Prime Minister Laurent Fabius' six-month-old Socialist government.

But while the news on the inflation, trade and overseas payments front has been good, unemployment, at record levels and still rising, remains a key issue as the government and the main opposition parties gear up for elections in mid-1986.

The disclosure last week that France almost balanced its current account external payments last year, pushed up the franc against other European currencies.

The provisional 600 million franc (\$62 million) deficit was the best result since 1979. Coming after two years of deficits running to almost \$12 billion, it bettered the most optimistic official and unofficial forecasts.

Cutting France's trade and payments deficits has been a key aim of President Francois Mitterrand since his about-turn from reflation to austerity in March 1983.

Last year's trade deficit, a provisional 19.8 billion francs (\$2 billion), was less than half the 1983 shortfall, and both the trade and current account figures bettered recent official forecasts.

Inflation, trimmed to 6.7 per cent last year from 9.3 per cent in 1983, was the lowest since 1971, although still higher than in many other industrial countries.

Official reserves have risen steadily for months, reflecting almost two years without a franc devaluation in the European Monetary System.

"The situation is satisfactory," Finance Minister Pierre Berégovoy told reporters. "The franc is behaving well."

Despite scathing criticism by the centre-right opposition, government forecasts in September of a 4.5 per cent inflation rate this year, faster growth and surplus on foreign trade, could now be seen to be "not unrealistic," Mr. Berégovoy said.

The satisfaction is not universal. The government's former minority partners, the communists, withdrew in July and have since waged a bitter campaign against the austerity policies and job losses in industry.

The government also is under fire from the conservative employers' lobby, the Patronat, which frequently questions official figures and paints a picture of a stagnating economy that can be revived only by rolling back state intervention.

Irish taxpayers may find little joy in government's new budget

DUBLIN (R) — The Irish government, weighed down with foreign debt, has little room for a generous budget this week to ease the burden on taxpayers and boost its own political fortunes, economists said.

They said the hard-pressed government of Prime Minister Garret Fitzgerald is unlikely to have much to offer an electorate that ranks among the most heavily taxed in Europe.

Ireland is said to have the highest indirect taxes in the 10-nation European Community and the second-highest direct taxes. Last year, taxes accounted for 36.3 per cent of gross national product (GNP).

Finance Minister Alan Dukes, who will present the budget on Wednesday, has been bombarded with demands from employers and unions — united in a rare show of accord — to reduce taxes.

The government would like to help, if only to revive its popularity which has slumped midway through a four-year term to 13 per cent behind the opposition Fianna Fail Party.

The government is also acutely conscious it cannot be too harsh as a previous Fitzgerald coalition fell in 1981 trying to bring in a tough budget that included a tax on children's shoes.

Some members of the Fine Gael-Labour coalition have warned the government it must bring in tax cuts and job-creation schemes or face certain defeat next year, if not earlier.

Mr. Dukes has promised annual indexation of tax bands. But with a foreign debt close to eight billion pounds (\$7.85 billion), a current spending deficit of one billion pounds (\$910 million) and public spending swallowing 66 per cent of GNP, his room for manoeuvre is seriously restricted.

When the government took power in December 1982 it promised to phase out the current spending deficit in four years. Last year it revised that to reducing the deficit as a proportion of GNP from the present 7.5 per cent to 5.0 per cent by 1987.

The foreign debt has gone up by almost half in the last two years and Ireland now owes 2,285 pounds (\$2,240) for every man, woman and child in the land.

The chronic economic situation has not been helped by the growing strength of the dollar. The pound has fallen by 20 per cent in just over a year, adding an estimated \$100 million to last year's debt repayments.

Control of deficits is key for long, sustained growth in U.S. economy

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. economy, after its best year since 1951, appears poised for continued growth that, many economists say, could run through 1988 if the huge federal government budget deficit is brought under control.

"You could have an expansion that could last through the rest of the decade, or at least through 1988, if you can do something about the deficit," economist Robert Gough of the Data Resources consulting firm said.

A steady drop in interest rates during the final quarter of 1984 and continued price moderation have dispelled the fears of some analysts that 1985 might bring forth a so-called growth recession in which the economy expands but at such a slow pace that unemployment rises.

"Our forecast is a lot more bullish than a few months ago. A lot of people feared renewed inflation as the Federal Reserve Board eased policy, it hasn't happened," said Mr. Michael Evans, head of the Evans Economics analytical firm.

Mr. Evans says the economy could grow as much as five per cent in 1985, down from the 6.8 per cent 1984 pace but still robust by historic standards.

Most analysts think Mr. Evans is over-optimistic, but their own forecasts are edging higher and they concede that a White House forecast of four per cent growth, forecast at just a few months ago, is no longer out of reach.

Thanks to lower interest rates and favourable inflation numbers — consumer prices rose just four per cent last year — the forecasters almost universally agree the ingredients are in place for a strong 1985 and say the potential exists for an expansion reminiscent of the record peacetime boom of the 1960s.

Falling rates make it easier for companies to pay for new plants and equipment, help maintain vitality in the important homebuilding industry and have boosted car sales in recent months by cutting financing costs.

"The lower interest rate pattern has restarted the economy," Wall Street analyst Mr. Allen Sinai said.

The rate decline has been encouraged by a Federal Reserve (Fed) decision to increase the availability of lendable funds by allowing the nation's money supply to grow at a faster pace.

His chairman Mr. Paul Volcker has said falling inflation has given the central bank the leeway to encourage expansion through an easier credit policy.

OPEC ministers tackle oil pricing dilemma

GENEVA (R) — A group of OPEC oil ministers were Sunday seeking a way to bring the cartel's official pricing structure back into line with world market realities.

On the eve of the third full meeting in as many months of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the seven ministers comprising its differentials committee know radical changes in its pricing system are needed to restore OPEC's unity and credibility.

During a recess in Sunday's meeting, Nigerian Oil Minister Tam David-West told reporters it was going "very, very well."

Despite his confidence, delegates say any likely formula is bound to meet opposition from among OPEC's 13 members.

Only Saturday, Dr. Mana Said Al Oteibi, oil minister of the United Arab Emirates, said OPEC's market monitoring committee would recommend that the conference not change current output levels or the "benchmark" price of \$29 for a barrel of Saudi light crude.

This leaves open the possibility of changing the prices of different grades of oil above and below the benchmark, which range from more than \$30 for high quality ultraights down to \$26.50 for heavy grades.

Most delegates agree that this gap must be narrowed, as light oils are hard to sell and heavy producers have a market advantage.

Light producers such as Algeria want the gap cut to as little as \$1.50, according to delegate sources here.

But their proposal to do this by adding a hefty \$2.25 to heavy grades appears to defy market reality, and would certainly be rejected by heavy producers like Saudi Arabia, whose oil minister Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani chairs the differentials committee meeting Sunday in private session.

Such a rise would in any case price heavy grades above the value of light oils on the free market, and also above the \$28 a barrel for light crude charged by OPEC member Nigeria, which broke ranks three months ago to try to compete with North Sea producers Britain and Norway — which are blamed by OPEC for much of the world's oil price turmoil.

Conference sources told Reuters Nigeria would come under pressure Sunday to bring its price back to perhaps \$28.50 within a revised overall pricing structure.

This would help restore unity to the cartel, but would still not tackle the problem created by Sheikh Yamani's public declaration that he opposes an increase in heavy grades.

OPEC itself sees signs of an upturn in the market, and Dr. Oteibi Saturday said that the oil companies were having to run down their stocks by four or five total output.

Industry sources believe depletion of stocks is less than this and supplies from elsewhere will sooner or later force the OPEC benchmark price down to market levels.

Reagan firm against military spending cuts

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Saturday rebuffed congressional demands for deep cuts in arms spending as part of a package to reduce massive U.S. budget deficits.

"There isn't much more to get there. We've squeezed that apple pretty hard," Mr. Reagan said in an interview with correspondents from seven radio networks.

He said it would be very risky to reduce defence spending by an arbitrary amount without regard to national security needs, which he said are determined by outside forces.

"You can't ignore what other people, possible adversaries, are doing," he added.

In a message to Mr. Reagan and Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger, Senate Republican leader Mr. Robert Dole warned Friday that budget-cutting efforts would be in trouble if Mr. Reagan did not agree to deeper cuts in defence spending.

"We are in real trouble if we can't get together on some defence numbers," Mr. Dole said.

Mr. Reagan has said that his budget request for the 1986 financial year, to go to Congress on Feb. 4, will seek \$8.7 billion less for defence than anticipated earlier.

In a prepared radio address prior to the interview, Mr. Reagan said his budget proposal for the 1986 financial year beginning Oct. 1 will include a plan to cut about \$50 billion from a deficit now projected at about \$225 billion.

In the interview, he blamed Congress for the runaway deficits and said that if the legislature rejected his spending cut proposals he would "take our case to the people."

India, Mexico to boost cooperation

NEW DELHI (R) — Oil technology is likely to figure high on the agenda of visiting Mexican President Miguel De La Madrid, who arrived in India Sunday, an Indian official said.

India and Mexico will hold two rounds of talks on Tuesday and Wednesday during Mr. De La Madrid's visit, his first trip to a country outside the American continent, he said.

He said Mexico was keen to increase the use of its oil drilling and exploration equipment in India. India signed a \$32 million contract two years ago to charter Mexican drilling rigs for its Mahanadi oilfield in eastern Orissa state.

Iran halts almost all imports

TEHRAN (R) — Iran has halted virtually all imports because of a sharp fall in its oil exports and dangerously-low foreign exchange reserves, diplomats in Tehran said Sunday.

Iranian banking sources confirmed the central bank last week issued an internal order severely restricting letters of credits for imports. "All Iran is importing now is food and armaments," one banking source said.

Iran is also refusing to consider any deals which do not include the purchase of oil from Iran under a barter or counter sale arrangement, the sources said.

The tight restrictions were imposed after oil exports slumped in December to a figure estimated by Western oil sources at one million barrels per day.

This is about half the peak rate of about 1.9 million barrels per day reached last July and well below the 1.7 million barrels per day that diplomats believe Iran must maintain to achieve its targeted revenue from oil exports of \$20 billion for the year ending in March.

Western oil industry sources estimated exports so far this month as low as 700,000 barrels per day.

Diplomats attributed the slump in exports mainly to uncertainties in the market and over the price Iran could expect to receive.

The oil industry sources said Iraq also made five confirmed hits against tankers in the Gulf last month, or a quarter of all those using Iranian oil terminals.

They estimated Iran's total production last month at 1.6 million barrels per day, compared with the 2.3 million allowed under its OPEC quota.

After the last OPEC agreement on narrowing price differentials, Iran increased the price of both its light and heavy crudes. Instead of offering discounts to persuade shippers to run the dangers of the Gulf war, it said it would offset extra shipping and insurance costs incurred as a result of the so-called tanker war.

The compensatory payments fluctuated but were around \$2.50 for a barrel of light crude and \$1.70-\$1.80 for heavy.

Extra costs amounted to less than \$2 so it was attractive to buy light crude but not the heavy, they said.

Iran does not publish its foreign exchange reserves but diplomats speculated they could be approaching the \$4 billion level that Iran is generally believed to have set as the danger limit.

Diplomats said the block in letters of credit could hit West European mostly as trade with East Bloc countries is done largely on barter arrangements.

One exception is Italy which relies heavily on Iranian oil and which, banking sources said, recently concluded a \$500,000 deal under which a consortium will provide heavy farm machinery and other equipment, in return partly for oil.

Iran initially put a brake on imports last February but diplomats said they had been led to believe that a loosening of restrictions was due.

"Instead we have had letters of credit applications pass through the pipeline only to be rejected at the last stage," one Asian diplomat said.

36 firms in Egypt show losses

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's industry minister Sunday reported a net loss by 36 public sector companies of \$361 million despite a 12 per cent increase in the value of public sector production for the fiscal year 1983/84.

Minister Mohammed Mahmoud Abdul Wahab said collective net profit in the public sector for the same period was valued at 5.7 billion Egyptian pounds (\$6.8 billion) compared with 5.2 billion pounds (\$6.3 billion) the previous year.

He told a news conference that of the 117 government-run industries, employing about 600,000 workers, 81 companies showed a net profit of 207.2 million pounds (\$249.6 million) for the same year.

Mr. Abdul Wahab said the cigarette industry alone lost 138 million pounds (\$166.2 million) but that the loss would not show in next year's budget as the government last summer raised the price of local cigarettes by about 50 cents a packet.

Egypt manufactures about 45 billion cigarettes a year and imports another 3 billion.

Mr. Abdul Wahab said the steel industry lost 40 million pounds (\$48.2 million) in the same year.

Latest official figures released by the ministry show the textiles sector achieved the highest export figure of the six industrial sectors at 269 million pounds (\$324 million), a 45 per cent increase over the previous year.

The food industry registered the highest local sales figure of 1.87 billion pounds (\$2.2 billion) in last year's budget.

'Abu Dhabi plans jets-oil deal'

NICOSIA (R) — The Gulf emirates of Abu Dhabi is finalising a \$450 million barter deal with France to exchange oil for warplanes, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported. The Emirate will buy 18 advanced Dassault Mirage 2000 aircraft and related equipment in exchange for two million tonnes of crude oil valued at some \$450 million, the usually-reliable weekly newsletter said in its edition to be published Monday. Abu Dhabi, one of the United Arab Emirates, is expected to start delivering the oil, averaging 40,000 barrels a day over a year, during the first quarter of this year, it said.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is one of the most productive days you can have of a business nature and in which long-time benefits will follow and flow even though you may not clearly see just how at this time.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A good day to see bigwigs who can assist you with some project that is vital to your welfare. Talk intelligently.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Go along with the views of allies today since the planets favor them at this time. Some new contact from a distance can help you now.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can now make work plans with fellow workers that can bring fine advancement in the days ahead.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You can see how to put some talent you have to work to your great benefit, and bigwigs can also be of help to you.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Those who dwell with you may have different ideas than yours, but try to come to a workable arrangement with them.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Talk over plans with partners you want to continue with for a long time to come. You can get some special talents to work now.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Financial affairs should be first on the agenda and then get property improved in some way. Listen to the ideas of a family member.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can advance very quickly now through that plan you have formulated. Get in touch with experts who can of great help to you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Make better plans and don't talk so much and go to advisors for any assistance you may need.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You have good judgment now and should go after what is important to your welfare. Have fun and be happy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) If you want your career work to run very smoothly, it is best to gain the assistance of a couple of bigwigs.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Gain the aid of bigwigs in order to make that new plan you have work very efficiently. Show that you have wisdom.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

"We just came in to make a down payment on a lobster."

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CEKOH

GURPE

RANLE

MUBHEL

SOMETHING A WOMAN FINDS EASIER TO DO WITH HER FACE THAN WITH HER MIND.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: CYNIC AFTER ZODIAC MEMBER

Answer: What the prices of some of those frozen foods definitely weren't — "FROZEN"

Peanuts

Mutt 'n' Jeff

Andy Capp

The Daily Crossword

by Judson G. Trent

ACROSS

1 Delicacy in handling

5 Lizard

10 London gallery

14 Storing's locale

15 Planets

16 Surrounded by

17 Traffic sign

18 Obstinate

20 Riding gear

22 Dam

23 Clue

24 Unique

26 Exchange premium

28 Add to (the pot)

32 Tyro

36 Great quantity

37 — East

38 Live cone sleeves

40 Dan, coins

41 More genuine

43 Shanker

44 Bustling about

46 Gr. Hask

47 Extorted

48 Dictators' aides

50 Storms

52 Courage

54 Luigi's money

55 Stock group

58 Bugle call

60 Regular

64 Without trust

67 Hebrides Isle

68 Auction word

69 "Taxi" role

70 Tabu

71 Jet black

72 Witch of —

73 Mard —

DOWN

1 Throw

2 Charles' dog

3 Shockhead

4 Brougham's vinyl coat

5 Follower

6 Turn to the right

7 "There ought to be —"

8 Jason's wife

9 Transfer

10 Salt

11 In a frenzy

12 Prong

13 High-strung

19 Comboe

21 Old language

25 Sp. month

27 Domineering

28 Gr. colonnades

29 Most faulty

30 Related maternally

31 — Ste. Marie

33 Emphatic type

34 Air, feline

35 Bagnold and Markey

36 Drive away

42 Memo

45 Way to go

49 Horse's milieu

51 In favor of

53 Angling lure

55 Source of pel

56 Black

57 Rabbit fur

59 Inn —

61 Othello was one

62 Lady in Slam

63 Aisle land

65 Nettle

66 — Grande

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ATRIUM FILIP BREED
IRON PILETA OOLE
ROADRUNNER DARN
STRIATED ONEDAY
CITY SLOSH
CRANE POINT OAT
COOT EARL ARUBA
ARAB SCOUT RESAO
TODDY AMIE MEAS
TODD BINE ARISE
LUTER BIN
GLORIA SEAPIECE
LOOT ROADTESTED
ANKA ELUDE GARE
DISH BELLA ELON

Reagan cautions on length, outcome of arms talks

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan says U.S.-Soviet arms control talks resuming on March 12 in Geneva are likely to be long and very tough.

But he told reporters the United States would "stay there at the table with the hope that this time we can arrive at an actual reduction."

He said: "I know how tough this is going to be... we're certainly going to try but I wouldn't try to confine it to four years because I know how long some negotiations have taken."

The announcement of the new talks, made simultaneously in Washington and Moscow Saturday, ends a 14-month hiatus in the negotiations.

Mr. Reagan expressed some optimism that the superpowers could reach agreement to cut the number of nuclear weapons but said he was not euphoric.

Three sets of related but separate talks on medium-range nuclear missiles, strategic nuclear arms and weapons in space were agreed to in principle at a meeting in Geneva on Jan. 7 and 8 between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

Mr. Shultz and Mr. Gromyko

agreed to set a date and place for the talks within a month.

Mr. Reagan said he did not know if the reported illness of Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko would adversely affect the start of the talks.

"The very fact they're going forward with them, that after 17 days of the month that was given to setting a date, they've come forth with a date and named their negotiators, would lead me to believe that they intend to go forward," he said.

Mr. Reagan pledged in his inaugural address after being sworn in for a second four-year term a week ago to work with the Soviet Union to achieve nuclear arms reduction.

Moscow vehemently opposes the building of a space-based anti-missile system nicknamed "Star Wars" which Mr. Reagan plans.

The three leaders of the U.S. delegation to the new talks are Washington lawyer Max Kampelman, former Texas Senator

John Tower and career diplomat Maynard Giltman.

Mr. Kampelman, ambassador to the Madrid Conference on European Security, will head the overall delegation and also will be the chief negotiator on space-based and defensive systems.

Meanwhile a panel of U.S. space technology and defence experts say President Reagan's "Star Wars" nuclear defence plan, is scientifically feasible.

Stressing Mr. Reagan's plan was not a science fiction concept, the panel wrote in a New York Times magazine article that it would use conventional non-nuclear intercepter rockets soon to be made available to the U.S. Air Force.

The panel consisted of Max Kampelman, the Washington lawyer who will head the U.S. delegation to the arms control talks in Geneva in March, physicist Robert Jastrow, and Zbigniew Brzezinski, who was national security adviser to former President Jimmy Carter.

"The promise of the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) is real," they wrote.

"Some of the technologies are mature and unexotic. Their deployment around the end of this decade would involve mainly eng-

ineering development."

They said the space defences could technically be in place now.

The panel estimated that Mr. Reagan's two-tier defence system would cost a total of \$60 billion of which \$45 billion would be used for the first-tier satellite-based "boost-phase" part of the plan.

This would involve "Smart" heat seeking, non-nuclear rockets which would be launched from pods on satellites to seek out Soviet booster rockets carrying nuclear warheads.

If that phase failed to destroy all warheads, then the "terminal phase" would come into effect, using the same missiles fired from aircraft that would destroy the nuclear warheads a safe distance above the earth.

"One concept of this technology was tested successfully last June by the Defence Department, when an intercepting missile zeroed in on an oncoming warhead at an altitude of 100 miles and destroyed it," the panel said.

The panel said highly sophisticated space weapons, such as laser beams, might come later, but they were not necessary to implement the "Star Wars" plan.

Guerrilla leader asks U.N. chief to help end Kampuchean suffering

NONG CHAN, Thailand (R) — Kampuchean leaders at the refugee camp of Nong Chan asked U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Sunday to help end the suffering of the Kampuchean people and bring peace to their country.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar later told Thai officials he would "exhaust all possibilities of my office" to resolve the six-year-old Kampuchean conflict.

During a visit to the camp for 23,000 refugees, he was briefed by Thai officials and U.N. relief workers on fighting along the Thai-Kampuchea border and relief efforts.

Shortly before he arrived, Vietnamese artillery could be heard shelling guerrilla positions inside

Kampuchea.

Camp leader Chhay Kim Hour read a statement to Mr. Perez de Cuellar asking him to intercede to stop alleged Vietnamese attacks on refugee camps and to end their occupation of Kampuchea.

He ended his statement by shouting: "Down with Vietnamese aggressors, Vietnamese expansionists and Vietnamisation of Kampuchea."

Sweating under the hot sun, Mr. Perez de Cuellar listened intently but did not speak to the camp leader. He was given presents of a Kampuchean violin and cloth made by the refugees.

He was also handed a letter from President Son Sann, leader of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), ask-

ing him to intercede to have 60,000 Kampucheans at another evacuation site to the north moved deeper inside Thailand.

Son Sann told Reuters he wanted to meet Mr. Perez de Cuellar to protest at Hanoi's attack last Thursday on Dong Rak, a Kampuchean civilian camp, in which 18 people were killed.

Thai officials quoted Mr. Perez de Cuellar, who was shown pictures of civilians whom the Thais said were killed or wounded at Dong Rak by Vietnamese artillery, as saying: "I will try to prevent further such incidents."

The U.N. leader, who flies to Vietnam Monday, said Saturday he would raise the reported shelling of civilian camps with Hanoi.

Gandhi welcomes statesmen on eve of summit

NEW DELHI (R) — Unprecedented security was clamped on the Indian capital this weekend when Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi welcomed world leaders for a six-nation summit on nuclear disarmament starting Monday.

Mr. Gandhi, who took office after his mother Indira was assassinated on Oct. 31, was making his debut on the international stage.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said security was unprecedented when Mr. Gandhi, Indian President Zail Singh and guest of honour President Raul Alfonsín of Argentina reviewed a parade of troops, armour and aircraft to mark Republic Day celebrations on Saturday.

Security forces manned roadblocks, guarded road bridges and frisked spectators with metal detectors after a newspaper reported that four assassination squads had penetrated Delhi on a mission to kill Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Zail Singh.

Mr. Alfonsín, Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu, Prime Minister Olof Palme of Sweden and President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico have already arrived for Monday's meeting.

Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere was due later Sunday night for the conference, which was expected to call on the major nuclear powers to reduce their atomic arsenals.

Special passes have been issued to reporters covering the meeting and officials have told them they must carry identity cards. Baricades guarded by police have been set up around the conference hall.

The Hindustan Times newspaper quoted intelligence sources on Saturday that "terrorist" squads from the troubled state of Punjab had been trained by Pakistan military intelligence.

Islamabad has denied charges by Indian leaders that extremists fighting for an independent Sikh nation in Punjab have been armed and trained in camps in Pakistan.

Euro-Parliament opens inquiry on racism, fascism

BRUSSELS (R) — A European Parliamentary committee launches public hearings on racism and fascism this week despite stiff opposition by the assembly's far right members.

The European Right Group headed by France's Jean-Marie Le Pen tried to scotch the inquiry, urging Parliament President Pierre Pflimlin to disband it as outside the assembly's competence and threatening court action if it went ahead.

The committee is due to report by June 30 on "the growth and

significance of fascist, racist and similar groups in Europe" in the light of high unemployment, and ways of combating them.

The report is to be drawn up by Greek Christian Democrat Dimitrios Evrigenis, who was a European Court of Human Rights judge before being elected to parliament last June.

The committee will hold public hearings on Wednesday and Thursday with evidence from academics and other experts from five countries.

Chile helped U.K. during Falklands War, report says

LONDON (R) — The Observer newspaper said Sunday that Chile helped Britain secretly in its 1982 Falklands War against Argentina, endorsing an earlier press report which brought official denials by both countries.

The Observer said senior British sources had confirmed that an Anglo-Chilean deal was signed at the outbreak of the war under which planes flying from Chilean air bases would gather intelligence for Britain.

The newspaper also said that a British naval officer's diary for the war period showed his submarine received a Chilean intelligence message on Argentine fleet movements.

The governments of Chile and Britain both firmly denied last week that there had been any secret deal after the left-wing magazine New Statesman reported that Britain sold Chile warplanes in exchange for the use of the air bases.

The New Statesman report caused concern in Argentina, where there were calls for a delay in approving a new treaty ending the country's long dispute with Chile over the Beagle Channel.

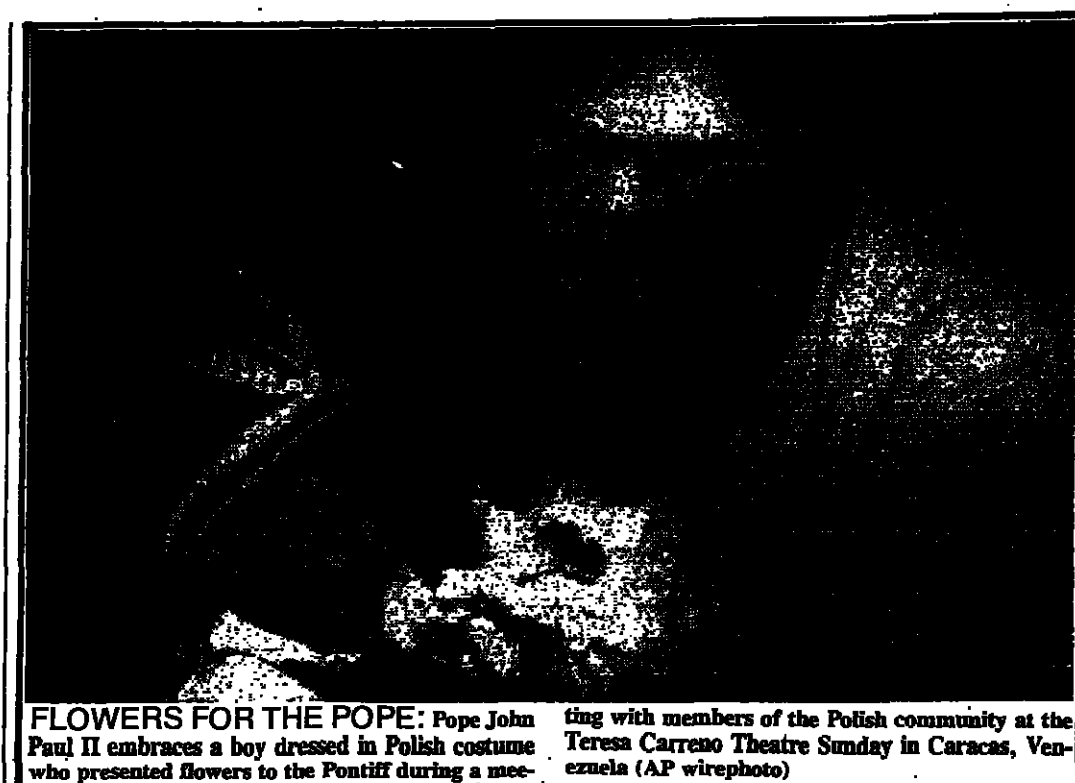
The Observer said it had "established from high-ranking British official sources that a written agreement was initiated by Britain and Chile at the outbreak of the Falklands conflict."

"It was signed in Santiago by the then British Ambassador John Heath and included facilities for British Canberra reconnaissance planes to be flown out to Chilean air bases with Chilean markings and used for reconnaissance on Britain's behalf."

The paper also said a diary kept by Lieutenant Narendra Sethia of the British submarine Conqueror showed that on May 26, 1982 a Chilean intelligence warning that the Argentine fleet might sail that night was relayed to the submarine.

No one was immediately available at the British Defence Ministry to comment on the Observer report.

The ministry said after the New Statesman report that there was no secret plan for favours deal. Britain had agreed to sell Canberras to Chile before the Argentine seizure of the Falklands in April 1982, it said.



FLOWERS FOR THE POPE: Pope John Paul II embraces a boy dressed in Polish costume Teresa Carreno Theatre Sunday in Caracas, Venezuela (AP wirephoto)

Jailed black South African leader still backs armed struggle against Pretoria

LONDON (Agencies) — Jailed black South African leader Nelson Mandela is fit and well and still supports armed rebellion against the white minority government, he told a British politician in an interview published Sunday.

Speaking in Cape Town's Pollsmoor Prison, Mr. Mandela said violent action could be halted if the government agreed to talks with his banned African National Congress (ANC).

His interview with Lord Bethell, a member of the European Community Parliament, was printed in the Mail on Sunday newspaper and billed as a world exclusive.

Mr. Mandela's health has often concerned his supporters since he began his life sentence for plotting against the government in 1964, but he told Lord Bethell: "I am in good health."

Rumours that he had cancer and that one of his toes had been amputated were not true, he said. He spent his time gardening, studying and reading and had few complaints.

Asked about his support for guerrilla violence, he said: "The armed struggle was forced upon us by the government. If they want us

to give it up, the ball is in their court."

"They must legalise us, treat us like a political party and negotiate with us. Until they do, we will have to live with the armed struggle."

He said the ANC aimed its attacks against buildings and property and did not believe in assassination. He regretted a bomb attack which killed a number of people in Pretoria in 1983, but he believed it had been an accident, he said.

He said some letters he had sent, including a note congratulating black South African Bishop Desmond Tutu on winning the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize, had been blocked or torn up.

During his first 10 years in jail, on Robben Island off the Cape coast, he had been very badly treated, he said. He was assaulted, forced to work long hours in a lime quarry and poorly fed, he said.

Lord Bethell said Mr. Mandela's quarters in Pollsmoor, shared with five other prisoners, comprised a large room with plenty of books and adequate toilet facilities. A door led to a long yard surrounded by white walls where Mr. Mandela kept vegetables in pots.

Meanwhile in New York, hundreds of Connecticut residents, including all four Democratic members of the state's congressional delegation, demonstrated Saturday at South Africa's consulate against that country's policy of racial separation.

In what Rep. Bruce Morrison called "the largest single demonstration so far in opposition to apartheid" in the United States, the protesters marched in sunny but freezing weather to the consulate on Park Avenue.

None of the demonstrators attempted to enter the building and there were no arrests. Mr. Morrison said that "more than 1,000 people" took part, although police at the scene put the number at 800.

The protesters carried signs, sang and chanted against apartheid, the system of racial separation under which South Africa's black majority is denied most of the civil rights enjoyed by the white minority.

They enthusiastically applauded speeches by Mr. Morrison, Sen. Christopher Dodd, Reps. Sam Gejenson and Barbara Kennelly, and Connecticut state banking commissioner Brian Woolf.

Japan seeks to prevent gang warfare

OSAKA, Japan (R) — Hundreds of riot police were mobilised in and around Osaka, Japan's second largest city, to prevent gang warfare after the alleged head of Japan's biggest crime syndicate was shot Saturday night.

Police said Sunday 700 riot police in bullet-proof vests were posted outside buildings housing gang offices. Similar precautions were taken in other parts of Japan.

Police also said they had arrested a 40-year-old leader of the Ichiwakai crime syndicate on suspicion of sounding Masahisa Takenaka, 51, alleged head of the Yamaguchi gang, which has an estimated membership of 13,000.

Police also raided more than 30 offices and houses belonging to the two syndicates.

Takenaka and two aides, Karumasa Nakayama and Chikara Minami, were shot Saturday night in the lobby of an apartment house by three or four unidentified men who escaped by car.

The two aides died in hospital from chest and head wounds and Takenaka was reported Sunday to be in serious condition.

The Ichiwakai group was formed by a splinter group of members once affiliated with the Yamaguchi family after Kazuo Taoka, then boss of the syndicate, died of a heart attack in 1981.

The Yamaguchi gang had no leader for three years until Takenaka was appointed by Taoka's widow as syndicate chief in June 1984.

Police said the gang's business covered extortion, drug trafficking, illegal gambling and prostitution.

Chinese daily attacks provincial papers

PEKING (R) — China's official daily Sunday branded some of its small local rivals as scurrilous scandal sheets and demanded that they should be strictly controlled.

"This kind of paper uses unreadable pornography, murder and confidential information to attract readers," the People's Daily said in a front page commentary.

The mass-circulation 10 Fen (four-cent) daily, which is required reading for Communists, complained that racy content allowed local papers to charge higher prices than it did.

A wealth of tiny newsheets have flourished in country towns since China's leadership began to encourage independent rural businesses and more publishing freedom in late 1970s.

Leaders hoped these papers would contain serious local news

and wholesome farming hints, but the People's Daily accused some of flourishing on sex and scandal.

"This type of paper is very damaging to readers, especially the young and children," it said.

The unsigned commentary urged provincial leaders to investigate "inferior" local papers and check their content and publishers and whether they were registered.

Any paper which did not register should be banned, it added.

The small unofficial papers are hard to find in Peking, but foreign correspondents eagerly turn every day to the Canton Evening News, which of all official papers has the spiciest selection of tales, like the hairy wildwoman who tried to seduce a camping scientist.

Even more highbrow publications like the Peking Evening

News occasionally publish curious items, such as the case of a playful wife who jammed a spittoon on the groom's head on their wedding night and could not remove it.

Shanghai's Establishment Paper, Wenhui Bao, published a letter from an anguished parent who said his child had shown a sudden decline in exam results.

"I made an investigation... and found in his schoolbags and drawer more than 10 small papers with incredible contents," the parent, Wang Rongchen, said.

"The boy said in the last few months he had become fascinated by these papers and could not concentrate in class because they affected his study."

Another parent, Zhang Keqi, wrote that out of 19 children in one class who failed their exams, 18 were enthusiasts of new papers.

COLUMN

Schoolboy hides radio in headdress to cheat in exams

AMMAN (R) — A schoolboy sitting exams in Jordan used a matchbox-sized radio concealed in his Arab headdress to cheat by communicating with a friend outside, a Jordanian newspaper reported Sunday. The paper, Sawi Al Shaab, said the boy aroused suspicion during the secondary school exams at Zarqa, 24 kilometres from Amman, Saturday when he asked to go to the toilet several times, saying he felt sick. When searched, the tiny two-way radio was found under his traditional headdress. He had been using it to get advice from a friend in a car parked outside the examination centre, it said. The newspaper said the boy was not a Jordanian national, describing him as "from a neighbouring Arab country."

Former Australian leader had lovers

MELBOURNE (R) — Former Australian Prime Minister Harold Holt had lovers in Australia and Hong Kong, his widow, Dame Zara Bate, said in an interview published in Melbourne. Dame Zara said she was aware of the gossip which linked Mr. Holt, drowned in wild seas near Melbourne in 1967, with beautiful women around the world. Dame Zara, now 73, said Mr. Holt was an enchanting man, a beautiful dancer, "who always made you feel that you were the only one." The women couldn't help themselves with him. I used to feel sorry for them," she said in the interview published in the Australian women's magazine New Idea. She said she knew her husband had lovers in Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney and in Hong Kong. "I am to terms with the other women early on in the marriage. Either I didn't have him or I put up with it. It was his nature and I couldn't change it," she said. "I just had to make a decision about what to do. If I could have changed him I would have, but I'll say this for him, he was very fair and he never embarrassed me. It was never done in front of my face."

More tourists visit China

PEKING (R) — More than 12 million tourists visited China last year, an increase of nearly a third over 1983. The New China News Agency said Sunday that 11.25 million of the 12.36 million visitors were ethnic Chinese from Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan and other countries. The other 1.11 million visitors included 350,000 Japanese and 200,000 Americans. Travel officials told the agency there had been a marked increase in the number of visitors under 20, and said there was a trend away from established tourist haunts like Peking, Shanghai, Canton and the scenic hill town of Guilin. Tourists are spending more time in the modern foreign investment zone of Shenzhen bordering Hong Kong, and newly-opened coastal cities such as Qingdao, Dalian and Xiamen, they said.

American jazz musician dies

PARIS (R) — American jazz drummer Kenny Clark, a contemporary of Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker, died in Paris of a heart attack, friends said. He was 71. Clark, who had lived in France for many years, gave up playing in public several years ago to devote himself to teaching young musicians.

Rabies alert declared in N. Africa

MELILLA (R) — Officials in this North African Spanish enclave have declared a rabies alert following a recent outbreak. Dogcatchers have been ordered to round up all strays and a ban has been imposed on taking cats and dogs in and out of the city.

British journalist dies aged 73

LONDON (R) — Journalist and broadcaster James Cameron, one of Britain's best known foreign correspondents, died at his London home Saturday night, a close friend said Sunday. He was 73. Cameron, who had been ill with a chest infection, reported from a string of trouble spots and front lines around the world until a car crash in India forced him to cut back on travel.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

©1984 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

LOOK FOR THE OBVIOUS

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ AK 10
♥ AK 104
♦ QJ 109
♣ 32

WEST EAST
♠ 75 ♠ 63
♥ J9873 ♥ Q62
♦ K732 ♦ 8654
♣ KJ ♣ 10986

SOUTH
♠ QJ9842
♥ 5
♦ A
♣ AQ754

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♥ Pass
4 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
5 ♦ Pass 6 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Seven of ♣.
Today, we are going to offer a piece of advice that might seem gratuitous to a number of our readers. It is this: when playing a slam contract, count your tricks to see whether you have 12. If you think we are harping on the obvious, consider declarer's play on this hand.

Although North has a very fine hand opposite partner's opening bid, his decision to jump shift is debatable — it takes up too much bidding space. However, no damage was done. South showed his second suit and then cue-bid his ace of diamonds. North

needed to hear no more.

With only 10 tricks in fast winners, declarer went after the clubs. He won the opening lead in dummy and finessed the queen of clubs, losing to the king. West returned another trump, declarer won, cashed the ace of clubs and ruffed a club.

When the suit did not break evenly, declarer found that, as the cards lay, he had no way of coming to a 12th trick.

Had declarer followed the advice given in the first paragraph, he could have claimed his slam after the first trick. He has six spade tricks, two hearts and a club, for a total of nine. And there is no way he can be prevented from scoring three diamond tricks to bring his bag up to the required dozen.

Declarer should win the opening lead and first cash the ace of diamonds. Now he draws as many rounds of trump as is necessary to exhaust the opponents' supply, ending on the board, and leads the queen of diamonds from the table. When East does not cover, declarer simply discards a club. West wins the king of diamonds, but that is the only trick for the defenders — there are just enough diamond and heart winners in dummy to take care of the rest of declarer's losers.